



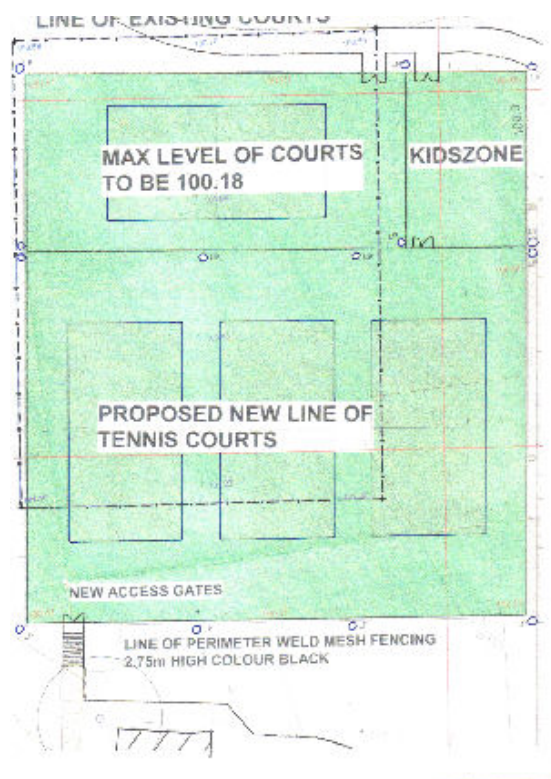
Hampton-In-Arden Sports Club

Tennis Section - Court Circular Spring 2008

Chairman's message - welcome to the 2008 tennis season!

I hope that you are all fit and well – refreshed ready for the new season ahead! 2008 should be an exciting year in the development of our Club. It has started in great fashion with Hampton being named as Warwickshire's Club of the Year 2007, an award sponsored by Bank of Ireland to the tune of £1,000. This is excellent recognition for the significant progress made in recent years. Membership levels have grown year-on-year for several years, our excellent coaching program runs all the year round with high (and growing) attendance levels, we have one of the highest "members per court" ratios in the County and we make a good contribution towards the LTA's initiatives. (photo p6)

On the coaching side, Ian Poole joined us at the end of last summer and, ably assisted by Dave Mountford, has made a very positive impact in his short time here. There has already been a step up in the number of competitive opportunities being offered particularly to the juniors, an initiative that is being pushed nationally by the LTA. Having got the outdoor winter months behind them, I'm sure that Ian and Dave are looking forward to their first summer at Hampton carrying on their great work with the sun on their backs! The adult coaching and cardio fitness sessions have also been popular and enjoyable.



The project to rebuild the courts, replacing the existing 3 courts with 4 new courts, has absorbed a tremendous amount of time. The Committee members, with a lot of additional support from John Eccleston and Wayman Morris, have been working exceptionally hard to deliver this project as quickly as possible. As the majority of you are aware, all of the planning issues have been successfully resolved and, as well as the formal planning permission, we also have the full support from the various local organisations. The full tendering process has been completed to the stage of having the necessary estimates to support the grant funding application forms, the majority of which have already been submitted. The approximate cost of the project is £300,000 and a number of significant grant applications have been made including to trusts directly associated with land-fill operators SITA, BIFFA and Cemex. All of these applications have now been submitted and we should hear back about their success (or otherwise) starting in the first half of April. We are delighted to report that George Fentham Trust have already pledged £50,000 to the project to go with the internally generated fund raising efforts that are ongoing. There are several other funding opportunities being investigated including the "sports match" funding scheme operated by the National Sports Foundation. In addition, we are working very closely with the LTA to secure both grants and loan finance (although grants are preferable to loans!). I'm sure that we won't be successful with all these applications, and a few disappointments will be encountered, but hopefully there will be enough "wins" to deliver the project in the not-too-distant future.

In the meantime, it is "business as usual" with tennis playing matters and social events. A big thank to everyone involved with the organisation of the Club from the Committee members, the Maxi tennis and league tennis team captains, competition organisers, the web administrator, social event organisers (and performers) and the helpers at the Arden 9. Ultimately it is the members that make a successful club – please come to the Club and play. Participate in the Club sessions, take part in tournaments and support the social & fundraising events whenever you are able.

Steve Ray

Sports Club AGM – Monday February 19th

The Sports Club AGM took place on Monday 19th February. Thanks go to Evan Grant and his team for all the hard work put in to improve club facilities. The major points noted at the meeting were as follows:

Accounts: The club accounts for the year to April 2007 show that the club made a profit of £9k after breaking even at April

2006. The main reasons for the increase in profit were: bar profits were up £1k; the income surplus from the Sports sections was up £7k and administration costs were down £1k. The club assets (ie cash less amounts payable) increased by the amount of the profit to £85k.

Planning: Planning permission was received in the summer for the new tennis courts and an application for floodlighting the hockey pitch has recently been submitted by the Recreational Trust.

Cricket: The parish council is in the process of putting a new drainage system into the Recreation Ground, which will facilitate the return of cricket to Hampton in 2009. Off site coaching at Tudor Grange is planned for 2008.

Football: No football can take place on the Recreation Ground during 2008, which is making things difficult for junior football. The older teams have moved to Field Lane, Catherine-de-Barnes.

General: Evan Grant retired as Chairman after three years and was replaced by John Eccleston for the next year. Gill and Steve McKenna also stepped down after two and after years to be replaced by Phil McCracken as Bar Chairman and Andy Minton as House Chairman. Thank you to Evan and his team for all their hard work in running the club over the last year.

President's Plate: This award is important because it is recognition by the **whole** Sports Club, not just the tennis section. So many congratulations to Chester Barnes who was awarded the plate this year for helping to move the club forward in a number of ways including winning the Warwickshire LTA Club of the year and driving forward the court refurbishment scheme. All this would not have been achieved without the efforts of many others. So thanks to all who have contributed to this award and helped to raise the profile of the tennis section.

Subscriptions Due - April 6th

It's that time of year again! Good news again this year – for the second year running, in recognition of the fact that the facilities are not as good as they once were, we have decided to hold this years membership rates at last year's levels.

Membership subscriptions for this season are due for payment on April 6th. The rates are detailed on your renewal form distributed with this Court Circular. As usual, discounts are offered for payments received by Sunday April 6th. Please send your completed application/renewal form and cheque made out to "Hampton-In-Arden Sports Club" to Chester at 68 Meriden Road, Hampton-In-Arden B92 0BT. Thank you!

Quiz Night - Saturday 12th April

The beginning of season quiz is once again being master minded by Julie Williamson, Geoff Redfern and Phil McCracken. It starts at 7.30pm. The cost is £8 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 your Maxi Tennis captain or Geoff (01675 442447). It will help us with the admin 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) by Tuesday April 8th so that we can order the right amount of food. Note that places are limited to the first 60 to pay.

Thanks.

Play Tennis Day and Club of the Year celebration, Saturday May 3rd – from 2pm

This is an opportunity for everyone, junior and senior members and non-members alike, to come and play tennis at the club for free and to help us celebrate the winning of the award for the Warwickshire LTA 2007 Club of the Year. There will be a variety of activities plus tea and cakes during the afternoon starting at 2pm so please invite your family and friends along. We hope to publish fuller details of the activities and their times on the day during April 2008.

Wimbledon Tickets, June 23rd to July 6th

If you would like to be entered into the Wimbledon ticket draw please tick the box on the membership Application form. The draw will be made in May. All draw winners will receive a pair of tickets. Please note that you have to be an adult member (18+) to enter the draw and that the tickets have to be paid for on collection. Please note that under LTA rules the tickets are not transferable so if you cannot go on the day allocated you should notify the committee as soon as possible and not take up your tickets. Under no circumstances should you sell your tickets.

The ASICS Arden 9 Road Race – Sunday June 22nd 10.30 am start



The fifth ASICS Arden 9 road race will be run on Sunday June 22nd and will once again be sponsored by ASICS and Hunters Estate Agents. Thanks to Gavin Davies for organising the event again. If you would like to run, you can find an application form at www.arden9.org.uk – the web site for the race. Alternatively you can find an application form from the notice board by the telephone at the Sports Club. As in previous years, the race will be properly measured and timed and is designed to attract everyone from the serious runner to those who just wish to have a go. The number of entries last year was 356, which was an increase from 287 in 2006. We are hoping for a fourth consecutive increase this year. The leading Sports Club runners in 2007 were Jeremy Horgan (bottom right) and for the second year running Susan Lawrence (top left), who beat her own Sports Club ladies record by around 3 minutes to record a time of 68:10. The Hampton Sports Club mens record, if you fancy having a go at beating it, is 66:07 recorded by Andy Williamson in 2004. The entry fee is £11 in advance or £13 on the day and the course will run as previously from the Sports Club to Catherine-De-Barnes, Eastcote and Barston returning back to the Sports Club via the lakes. If you are around on the morning of June 22nd and would like to help us marshal the course or man

the drinks stations please could you let me know? We need a significant number of helpers for this event, which has raised £8,000 for the new courts over the four years it has been run.

Thank you.



Tennis Club 2008 AGM Wednesday November 5th

The Annual General Meeting of the tennis section will be held on Wednesday November 5th commencing at 7.30pm. Full details will be distributed by email and displayed on the tennis notice board during October.

Thank you!

Court Maintenance Day Sunday April 13th

Please could we ask nicely for some help to make the Courts look their best for the new season? Volunteers (senior and junior) please come along on Sunday April 13th between 10am and 11am with some appropriate tools. The job is mainly about weeding the Court surrounds and pathways plus any other tidying up that we can do in the time. If you intend to come please could you let Steve Ray know by calling him on 01675 442132

Diary Dates - 2008 Season

- Monday February 25th – Sports Club AGM
- Sunday April 6th – 2008/09 subscriptions due
- Saturday April 12th – Quiz
- Sunday April 13th – Court Maintenance 10am to 11am
- Sunday April 13th – Maxi Tennis Final
- Saturday May 3rd – Play Tennis Day and Club of the Year celebration
- Saturday May 10th – Road to Wimbledon Tournament (Under 14)
- Saturday June 7th – Mini Tennis Tournament
- Saturday June 14th – Junior Tournament (Under 16 and

Court Playing Etiquette

Please can we ask you all to observe the following basic principles when using the tennis courts:

- When playing wear sports clothing (not jeans) of any colour and “non-marking” soled trainers or tennis shoes.
- Wait until the point in play is complete before walking across the end or down the side of the court.
- Use plastic bottles or cups on the courts to avoid

Under 12)

broken glass.

- Sunday June 22nd – The 5th ASICS Arden 9 Road Race
- Saturday July 5th – Finals Day
- Wednesday November 5th – Tennis Club AGM
- Saturday November 8th – Annual Dinner Dance at the Forest Hotel, Dorridge

- Pick up litter, including tennis ball cans, used ring pulls and lids.
- Turn your mobile phones off when league or tournament matches are in progress.
- Avoid the use of foul or abusive language or the abuse of equipment.
- Lower the net slightly to remove the net tension when you finish playing.
- Switch off the floodlights when you have finished with them.

Team Tennis – Coventry league

The highlight of the season was a second consecutive promotion for the Mens 1st team into division 1. Also, congratulations to the Mens 2nd team who were promoted to division 4. 2007 playing records and 2008 contacts are shown below:

Coventry League – Teams and Contacts

TEAM	CAPTAIN	DIVISION	2007 FINAL POSITION INFORMATION
Mens 1st Team	Mark Joannides 07909 697718	2	2nd (of 8) – 41 points – promoted to Division 1!
Mens 2nd Team	Steve Ray 01675 442132	5	2nd (of 8) – 38 points – promoted to Division 4!
Mens 3rd Team	Geoff Redfern 01675 442447	6	8th (of 8) – 13 points – an enjoyable romp
Ladies 1st Team	Terri Mason 01675 442325	3	7th (of 8) – 20 points – relegated by 1 point to Division 4
Ladies 2nd Team	Coralie Hammond 01675 442144	5	5th (of 7) – 19 points – maintained position
Ladies 3rd Team	Rosalie Eccleston 01675 442913	6	5th (of 5) – 6 points – an enjoyable second season

If you want to play team tennis please call one of the contacts listed above. Practice sessions are currently held on Monday nights with the ladies taking priority up to 8pm and the men after 8pm. Additional practice sessions will be arranged as the start of the league season approaches. Selection, which will be based on merit, is the captain's responsibility.

Club Tournaments – Finals Day Saturday July 5th

The entry form for the 2008 club tournaments was distributed by email on February 20th and again on March 13th. Please return it by email to secretary@hamptontennis.org.uk or by post to Geoff Redfern, 32 The Crescent, Hampton-In-Arden B92 0BP. Any questions please call Geoff on 442447. 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 doing well – it would be nice to see all members enter this competition. You must be 16 or over to enter or a specifically invited junior member to compete. Ian Poole will be contacting those juniors under 16 who are invited to play. The 2007 winners are shown in the table below:

Winners of the 2007 Club Tournaments

TITLE	WINNER(S)	RUNNER(S)–UP
Open		
Mens Singles	Matthew Hunt	Mark Joannides
Ladies Singles	Lucy Wasse	Carol Grant
Mens Doubles	Mark Walker & Alan Cutts	Mark Joannides & Matthew Hunt
Ladies Doubles	Terri Mason & Kathy Hunt	Lucy Wasse & Sandy Wasse
Mixed Doubles	Julie Williamson & Mark Joannides	Kathy Hunt & Matthew Hunt
Plate		
Mens Singles Plate	Phil Turpin	Savio Gaspar
Ladies Singles Plate	Chris Durbin	Ruth Fennell
Mixed Plate	Catherine Eley & Paul Roper	Sarah Archer & Chester Barnes
Veterans		
Mens Veterans Doubles	Chester Barnes & Steve Ray	Joe Killeen & Rob Yates
Ladies Veterans Doubles	Terri Mason & Carol Grant	Chris Durbin & Kathy Hunt
Juniors		
Girls Under 12	Emily White	Ellie Nugent-Spick
Girls Under 16	Charlotte Ray	Sophie Cable
Boys Under 12	Jamie Turpin	Sam Hiskett
Boys Under 16	Jacob Pratt	Will Shaw

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 doing well – it would be nice to see all members enter this competition.

Eligibility: You must be an adult member or an invited junior member

Your entry form should be returned by: email:secretary@hamptontennis.org.uk or by post: Geoff Redfern, 32 The Crescent, Hampton-In-Arden B92 0BP Questions? call Geoff on (01675) 442447

Deadline extended to: Sunday March 30

Social Tennis

We have three sessions for social tennis during every week of the year. These take place on:

Bringing Guests

You are welcome to bring guests to play provided they are signed into the Visitors Book before playing. The book is kept in the court bookings folder attached to the Tennis notice

- * Sunday mornings 10.30am to 12.30am board in the clubhouse. A visitors fee for each visit of £5 is payable for adults and £2 for juniors. There is a limit of three occasions per season on which the same guest can be brought into the Club, thereafter they are expected to become a member.
- * Tuesday evenings 7.30pm to 10pm
- * Friday evenings 8pm to 10pm with adult beginners from 7pm to 8pm
- All standards of play welcome.

Maxi-Tennis - Spring 2008 Competition

The Maxi-Tennis Spring 2008 Competition is drawing to a close. The final (which will be played between the teams that finished first and second in the league) will take place on Sunday April 13th from 2.30 pm to 4.00 pm (approx) with a presentation immediately following. Please come along and support your team – the final league table is shown below:

Spring 2008: Final Maxi-Tennis League Table

TEAM	PLAYED	LOST	WON	DRAWN	LEAGUE POINTS	TOTAL TENNIS GAMES	TOTAL TENNIS POINTS
Scotland	5	1	4	0	8	44	730
Ireland	5	2	3	0	6	53	749
England	5	2	3	0	6	47	732
Wales	5	3	2	0	4	45	691
France	5	3	2	0	4	35	705
Italy	5	4	1	0	2	45	709

Hampton-In-Arden Tennis Club Warwickshire LTA Club of the Year 2007



Our chairman (Steve Ray) is shown in the photo on the left collecting the clear sculpted trophy and the cheque for £1,000 sponsored by Bank of Ireland from Tony Eskew of the Warwickshire LTA at the presentation dinner held at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens in January 2008.

The award has been given to us in recognition of the great strides we have been making over recent years:

- specific and active policies of welcoming players of all ages and abilities
- concerted efforts to build our coaching programme
- attracting top quality enthusiastic coaching staff
- increasing membership
- improving playing opportunities and a regular calendar of social events
- planning and fund raising for the replacement of the existing courts

Junior Section Report for 1007



Coaching

There was a sad farewell to Alan Cutts as he left at the end of September to make a new life for himself in Yorkshire, joining Ilkley Tennis Centre. A large gathering of friends came to wish him well and thank him for his hard work and inspiration over the past two and half years he has been at the club. Losing a good coach is always a worry as replacements are very hard to come by. However, an excellent new coach was quickly found, chosen from an exceedingly strong short list. We warmly welcomed Ian Poole (shown with assistant Dave and Under 12 tournament finalists (2007)) to our club in October. Ian has settled in well and seems to enjoy working with us. Hopefully we are responding well to his true passion for tennis. Ian is following the club's philosophy, supporting and encouraging all our juniors (and older players), whatever their abilities and aspirations. We were also pleased to see the arrival of Dave Mountford as assistant coach (back row, right in photo on right).

Dave is providing several adult group coaching sessions including a cardio tennis session at 9.30 am on a Wednesday

morning. This is something new for us and is proving to be a very popular session despite its gruelling nature!

Highlights of 2007

- More coaching hours delivered to more children with more coaching sessions available. These take place on every day of the week during term time, except Sunday and Monday.
- An increase in the number of junior members from 93 to 96.
- 4 School links.
- Continuation of our LTA mini tennis centre accreditation (awarded 2002). This involves entering red, orange and green teams in local leagues.
- Retention of teenagers and the running of girls only groups. These aspects of coaching programmes are particularly encouraged by the LTA.
- Some of our juniors enter external competitions. 16 children entered the North Warwickshire Doubles Leagues. Sophie Cable and Kate Gregory won the Under 14 girls section of this competition. Sophie was successful a second time with Jacob Pratt when they won the Under 14 mixed. Charlotte Ray is the Under 12 Solihull Schools champion, with Emily Cable runner up. Sophie Cable was runner up in the U17 age group.
- The Junior Tournament was sponsored this year with Widney Sports providing the prizes. The winners were:
 - 16 and Under – Boys: Jacob Pratt (runner up: Will Shaw); Girls: Charlotte Ray (runner up: Sophie Cable)
 - 12 and Under – Boys: Jamie Turpin (runner up: Sam Hiskett); Girls: Emily White (runner up: Ellie Nugent-Spick)
- **Attendance at special events:**
 - (a) 20 children were offered complimentary invitations to the DFS Ladies Classic at Edgbaston including a “fun” session at the tennis factory.
 - (b) Several juniors took part in LTA talent spotting invitation-only events
 - (c) Alan (Cutts) took a group of juniors for an exciting day out at the Davis Cup at the NEC and a group of mini tennis players from our club performed a demonstration of tennis in front of the crowd waiting for the Andy Murray match.
- Play Tennis Day was great fun and our most successful yet ever with 108 registrations.
- On court experience for older juniors undertaking their Duke of Edinburgh award was provided.



Our coaches with the Under 12 tournament finalists.

Back row from left: Ian Poole, Dave Mountford.

Front row from left: Emily White, Jamie Turpin, Sam Hiskett and Ellie Nugent-Spick

Looking forward to the rest of 2008

Ian has already been putting into place plans to develop the coaching and playing programme. In outline these are:

1. More and improved competitive play outside the normal coaching sessions, including both fun and more serious competitions with opportunities to compete against players from other clubs.
2. A more structured approach to group and private/shared lessons with specific coaching aims made clear.
3. More private/shared lessons for juniors and adults including more daytime coaching sessions.
4. Close tie-in with the aims and objectives of the LTA's National Competition Framework (introduced in September 2007)

Thanks! Thanks to the juniors, coaches, parents, volunteers who have helped to make this year so successful.

More help required please! If you would like to become a member of the Junior Tennis Committee or help out at specific events, we

would love to hear from you! Please contact Jayne Barnes, Junior Committee Secretary (tel 01675 443572 or email jcbarnes@tesco.net). Thank you!

Easter Tennis and Multi-Sport Camps



Juniors – do you want to play tennis in the Easter Holidays? If you do, please contact Head Pro Ian Poole (07968 451956) about the coaching camps that he is running. Details as follows:

- Tots Camps (Ages under 5) £7.50 per session: Fri 28 March and Fri 4 April 10am to 12 noon.
- Mini Red & Orange (Ages 7 – 10) £10 per session: Wed 26 March and Wed 2 April 9am to 12 noon.
- Full Court (Ages 10+) £12 per session: Tue 25 March 1pm to 5pm and Mon 31 March 9am to 1pm.

Since joining the club a goal from the coaching team was to provide greater opportunities for competition within all ages of the programme. We set-up some friendly matches as shown below:

Hampton (U-18) vs Stratford LTC (Nov 07) – We narrowly beat Stratford with a heavily female dominated side, showing strong levels of performance at both singles and doubles. Shakey Pratt showed consistent levels throughout after previously winning the u-16 junior club singles title. Thanks to the following – Shakey Pratt, Connor Jones, Xander Barnes, Malachi Jones, Sophie Cable, Kate Gregory, Charlotte Brown and Maria Barnes.

Hampton (U-14) vs Coleshill – We sent a very strong under 14 side consisting of Sam Hiskett, Jamie Turpin and Tom Betts along with team manager “Deadly” Dave Mountford. Deadly described the victory as “unanimous” as the boys were undefeated all afternoon winning all their singles and doubles matches putting into practice some of the work we have done in our performance squads – well done guys.

Mini Red Leagues (Warwickshire LTA) 8 and Under – This was the first time many of the children competed at this level and making the transition from outdoor red to indoor sponge red is not easy. The leagues finished with 3 wins from 6 matches. A big thank you to the parents for all their help and support and to the following kids: Tuesday squad – Jack Pinhorne, Jo Warner, Jack and Will Naisbitt and Lexi Bouvier; Thursday squad – Tom Lord; Saturday squad – John Bartlett, Ben and Lewis Jones, Ben Penson, Mathew Giles and Mathew Middleton. Good start guys.

Mini Orange Leagues (Warwickshire Mini Orange Classic 2008) – This is the first time that these Hampton players have entered and consequently we had little or no match experience, so it was a fresh challenge for all. Our first match was at David Lloyd where we faced two of last year’s top sides – Blossomfield and Solihull Arden who were both exceptional. Our players did much better against David Lloyd – thanks to Chris Thomas and George Armstrong and Parents. Our next fixture was at home against Stratford and Shipston with Shipston the run away winners. In a close 2nd place playoff we were pipped in the final doubles of the day to finish 3rd although team coach Dave Mountford was very pleased with a strong singles result from Josh Jones. Thanks to Harry Goodworth and Josh Jones.

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