



Newsletter, April 2024

Welcome to the latest edition of the club newsletter.

If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact the club committee via email:
contactus@cuddingtontennis.org.uk

Membership

Membership information has been circulated for the new 2024-25 season, which runs from April-April. If there are any questions regarding membership, please email Sarah Fryer on robfrayer@sky.com

Court Bookings

Please ensure that you book your courts for play, to ensure a full overview of use. This enables an accurate judgement to be made of when to release courts for external bookings from non-members. The external (pay to play) bookings have increased over the past 12 months and the income this generates is very welcome to the club, however can only be balanced accurately if members ensure they do book their courts.

During the daytime, please try to book and use courts 3-6 to allow pay and play visitors to book and use courts 1 & 2.

AGM feedback

Further to questions asked at the AGM, these were brought to the next committee meeting for discussion. With regards to the enquiry about possible weekend-only and daytime-only membership categories, the committee felt these would be difficult to monitor and agreed that as current membership categories offer value for money, these alternatives have been declined.

A friend of C&STC / keep-in-touch membership category for those who no longer (temporarily or permanently) play has however been agreed and now implemented. This will require an amendment to the constitution at next year's AGM.

Team tennis

Congratulations to Men's Cuddington 'A' who won the Winter and Spring leagues as well as the cup final. Pictured here after the Spring league final v Nantwich 'A' are players James Peach, Andy Long, Jamie Oakes and Jay Cummins, joined by Liam Broady (middle) who went along to watch.

6 men's & 5 ladies' teams (each have 4 players) are due to play from mid-April on Tuesday and Thursday evenings in the forthcoming summer South and Mid-Cheshire Tennis League and 3 mixed teams will play on Sunday mornings.



Progress can be seen on the www.smctennis.co.uk website.

We also have a team entered into the Cheshire LTA Youth & National League for Summer 2024 (Open Men Division 1). Their home match dates will be Sunday afternoons, playing from 2pm on 21.04.24, 28.04.24 and 19.05.24.

Members will be able to check regarding court availability at all times through ClubSpark bookings.

Club maintenance and development

Work to fit energy-efficient LED lights on courts 3 & 4 has now commenced and the new lights have been installed. Separate switches have been requested as part of the work and burying of the cables around the court perimeter, yet to be completed. The old light heads have been turned to face the football field to enable possible use by the footballers, however the logistics for this have not yet been arranged or agreed.

Groundworks to construct an Indian stone patio area will commence in June. Pending the success of the application for planning permission, which was submitted over 3 months ago, there will then be constructed a 6m x 4m oak frame gazebo-structure, with a pitched, tiled roof. The shed will also be replaced with a larger version. There have been no objections from the local consultation.

Sweep / Cleaning of courts: The club has previously purchased a mechanical brush and this will now be used across all the courts on a regular basis.

“Matting” of the courts is encouraged daily for all courts: you will see further notices regarding this in future weeks. The process of dragging the mat across the courts clears visible debris and also agitates the sand and helps to prevent moss build up.

Deep Clean of courts: An in-house job had been planned & a good response had been received from the membership to help out, however this has been revised considering the amount of heavy work required. A quote from a contractor has instead been accepted and a future date will be set for this work to be undertaken.

Blocked drain: Please be aware that the drain from the clubhouse (which runs underground to the road) is susceptible to blocking. We have recently had to have the drain professionally unblocked and further work may be required. Please do ensure that only the essentials are flushed down the toilets and the bins are used for other products.

Clubhouse Heaters: quotes are currently being sought to replace the heaters, to upgrade them and minimise the chance of pipes freezing over the winter months.

Floodlight use

Please make an extra effort to turn only the essential lights on for play. Courts 1 - 4 now have energy efficient LED bulbs and 1 & 2 can be switched on individually, so please use these in preference when possible. Similarly, please consider when the clubhouse indoor & outdoor lights can be switched off when the clubhouse is not in use.

Remember that court lights must be switched off by 9:30pm with no exceptions and are not to be used at all on Sundays.

Coaching update

Jamie continues to offer group and individual coaching opportunities for members & can be contacted on Tel 07737 925420 / email jamieoakes154@gmail.com

As this newsletter is being finalised, we are approaching the end of the Easter coaching camp for which April showers have definitely been a theme!

Clubhouse refreshments



You are welcome to use clubhouse facilities to make drinks, however please ensure you bring your own supplies. Please respect that the stock which is labelled & stored by organised groups is for their sole use.

Club Nights for adults have now reverted to the summer allocated evenings, on Mondays and Wednesdays. Just come along to join in doubles play, from 18:30. Please be aware of the time of court availability for bookings on these evenings & note that Club Night play takes precedence and also supersedes court bookings.

Committee news

If anybody is willing to take on Social Events Co-ordinator, or assist with organisation of future social events, please do get in touch.

Safeguarding update

All club users are encouraged to help create a safe, accessible, enjoyable and welcoming environment for everyone.



Our club safeguarding policies have now all been reviewed and revised and we have successfully demonstrated that the club meets satisfactory standards as set by the LTA.

As part of the revised policies, we have introduced an expectation that any child under secondary school age will be supervised by a parent or responsible adult at all times whilst in the club grounds. The emergency contact and photo/film consent 'google form' is now in use, for completion for all junior players attending any coaching sessions. The form can be found in the documents section of the club website, by following this link:

<https://www.cuddingtontennis.org.uk/documents>

If you have any questions regarding Safeguarding within the Club, please contact Welfare / Deputy Welfare Officer, Yvonne Williams or Mike Bee, who can be reached by email on welfare@cuddingtontennis.org.uk

Dates for your diary

- **Sunday 14th April, Mixed Doubles Tournament, 2-4pm**
Entries are in and the order of play arranged ready for some competitive social tennis, with refreshments to follow (*see below for details of the next tournament).
- **Club Championship:** see posters on the clubhouse door / forthcoming email for entry. Finals day to be held Sunday 15th September.
- **Saturday 8th June, Cuddington & Sandiway Gala Day:** the club once again plans to open up and invite guests to join us for taster sessions. We'll require a whole host of volunteers to help meet and greet, have a hit and serve refreshments on the day. Please save the date and look out for the opportunity to sign up and volunteer.
- ***Maureen Kirby & Gerry Ferber Memorial Social Tournament:** a date has now been set, for 30th June 2024.

Club Website <https://www.cuddingtontennis.org.uk/>

The website includes dates for other planned events for 2024 within the Club Calendar section.