



ClubTalk

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TENNIS

COURT RESURFACING

At the Tennis Forum in May discussion took place regarding the proposed resurfacing of the courts and in particular the merits of clay and artificial surfaces. Members are urged to try out these surfaces in advance of the forthcoming EGM when a decision on resurfacing will be made. Anyone who would like to arrange to play on the clay courts at Parklangley should contact Barbara at info@sltcc.co.uk.

NEW TENNIS SESSIONS

A new two-hour 'Improve and Play' drop-in session, run by Chris and Michael, started on 17th January. It will run every Thursday between 7 and 9pm offering Improvers and Intermediates an hour with a coach followed by an hour's social play. It's open to non-members too, so spread the word amongst friends, family and colleagues. (£7 members, £11 non-members). Further details on the website.

RECYCLING TENNIS BALLS

The club is trialing a recycling scheme for old balls. There is one recycling bin located near the notice board by courts 1 and 2 and another by court 7. Please put all unusable balls (any condition) in these bins to help raise money for the club. Any reusable balls can be put in the bin in the kitchen as usual for juniors.

TEAM NEWS

The teams had an exceptionally good summer. Men's 1 and 2 and Mixed 1 and 2 all won their divisions and Men's 2 and Mixed 2 won promotion to Division 1. This makes Sydenham the only club in Kent to have two teams in the top division in Men's and Mixed.

SQUASH

SQUASH TOURNAMENT FINALS DAY

This traditional end-of-year competition resulted in some hard-fought matches with Chris Veale coming out top dog in the Division A Final. Silverware once again for Sean "Robber" Baron. Sean is now taking bookings for a day course at the club entitled "How to win a shed load of trophies whilst playing no more than ten competitive games per season".

Division A results:

Main Final - Chris Veale bt Barry Milton

Plate - Hugh Macnicol bt Harry Cole

Best of the Rest - Vic Marden bt Jon Miles

Division B results:

Main Final - Shyam Kapila bt Simon Taylor

Plate - Sean Barron bt Steve Nash

Best of the Rest - Dave Stacey bt Peter Lewis

GIVE RACKETBALL A GO!

Calling all tennis members – why not try our newly renovated squash courts where you can play racketball free of charge? You can then appreciate the new smooth walls and beautifully sanded floors of our renovated courts at close quarters. Rackets and balls are available free from the box on the balcony.

CROQUET

It has been very quiet in the winter but the good news is that the leaking chalet roof has been replaced. Some trees have been removed around the playing area and the cylinder mower has now been repaired ready for play to resume in the spring.

THE BOARD

The Board co-opted Gale Burns as croquet representative, replacing Robert Laver who has stepped down after serving an impressive nine-year term. Gale joins the two directors newly elected at the club AGM: Barry Milton, Squash and Eileen Mahony, Grounds & Premises. We thank them for taking up the challenge and releasing Robert, Harry Cole (Squash) and Peter Lewis (Grounds & Premises) who did these jobs previously. We thank them too.

MINUTES & 10-YEAR BUSINESS PLAN

The minutes of the AGM, Board and Tennis Committee meetings and the latest version of the 10-year Business Plan are all club's website at www.slccc.co.uk

Work on the Business Plan continues in preparation for an Extraordinary General Meeting of members later in the year. Further details of will be available in the spring.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR 2012

Congratulations to Trish Allen who has won the club's coveted Volunteer of the Year award. Trish has prepared the Board minutes for three years, as well as volunteering for other one-off jobs. Sadly Trish sustained a serious injury to her right hand before Christmas. Club Talk offers her our very best wishes.

BAR AND LETTINGS

Many thanks to Jo Hughes for continuing to manage the Bar and Lettings over the last few months. Sadly, Jo will be stepping down from her posts. Anyone (within the club or externally) who is interested in doing one or both of these paid jobs from May this year, please contact Andrew Lewis at info@slccc.co.uk.

VOLUNTEERING

The Board is also looking for up to three new Directors to lead on Bar, Lettings and Events. Please contact Andrew or Peter at info@slccc.co.uk if you are interested in volunteering.

Eileen Mahony is recruiting volunteers to help with the removal of ivy from the trees around the club grounds in February (date to be con-

firmed) with a free drink in the bar for all helpers. Email her if you can help on eilla@ntlworld.com.

Emma Lunn, Dan Stephens and Will Burnett stepped down as Club Talk editor, webmaster and designer respectively and we thank them all for giving their time so generously over the years. In their place the club welcomes Gillian Bartlett as Club Talk editor and Daniel Hensby as webmaster.

GIFT AID DONATIONS

Please help the club raise funds by using Gift Aid to make donations. More information can be found in the members' area of the website.

GOSSIP

There were plenty of celebrations to get players through the bleak midwinter! Santa made a surprise visit to hand out presents at a well-attended pre-Christmas Squash club night dinner and drinks held in the bar on 12th December. The Christmas Quiz and Curry night hosted by Jeff on 15th December was also a great success. Coaches Chris and Michael invited all the players having coaching and Wednesday club night players to a 'bring and share' evening on 19th December when fun was had by all.

If you have any news or gossip for the next Club Talk, please email Gillian on info@slccc.co.uk.

COMING SOON – EVENTS

American Tournaments – 14th February and 11th April for improvers, intermediates, and advanced players. Make sure you sign up!

Quiz night – 22nd March run by Jeff – keep your diary free!

Wimbledon Tickets and Bingo night – 26th April. This is a provisional date, subject to confirmation from the LTA about allocation of tickets.

Open Day - Bank Holiday Monday - 6th May. Volunteers required to help on the day, including playing with prospective new members, please.

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