

CLUB HOUSE RENOVATION UPDATE

With a unanimous thumbs up from members at the EGM last year, the Board was given the go-ahead to take forward a major facelift to the club house to create a new bar and social space. The planned improvements as detailed in our 10-year Business Plan, will not only enhance the club's facilities for the benefit of members but are expected to generate much needed additional revenue.

BUT, we can only deliver this project with your help!

The club is setting up a working group to kick-start the project. Can you spare some time? From just a few hours to a more on-going commitment; all offers of help would be welcome. No previous experience is necessary. To help us get this project off the ground, please contact Peter Lewis at: info@sltcc.co.uk

Further details of the tasks in mind for the working party can be found on our website at www.sltcc.co.uk/workingparty

BOARD REPORT

HOW WE ARE SPENDING IT

Since the last edition of Club Talk, the following improvements and additions have been made to the club premises:- five wooden benches for tennis courts (£400); pressure washing six tennis courts (£2400); six tables and twenty-five chairs for club-house events and lettings (£900); new cylinder mower for croquet lawn (£1900); redecoration of main hall, kitchen and toilet in clubhouse (£1100); clearing vegetation from perimeter and repairs to wire-mesh fencing (£800); new aluminium signs in club grounds (£1650); re-surfacing court 5 (£15,300).

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

At the AGM on 27 November 2013 the Volunteer of the Year Award was awarded to Gillian Bartlett who, in January last year, stepped in to be the editor of Club Talk.



BOARD CHANGES

Following the resignation of Barbara Cavanagh as Tennis Representative, the Board has co-opted Gillian Bartlett in her place. The Board is also pleased to announce that Simon Taylor has volunteered

to be the Squash and Racketball Board Representative, replacing Barry Milton who resigned last September.

The Board still has vacancies for Grounds & Premises Director, following Eileen Mahony's resignation at the AGM and Bar & Lettings Director, which Andrew Lewis is keen to pass to someone fresh. Finally, we have a long-standing vacancy for an Events Director.

Details of all these volunteer roles can be found on our web-site at www.sltcc.co.uk/volunteering-and-job-vacancies.

If you can help in any way email: info@sltcc.co.uk with your details.

NEWS FROM THE BAR

The club would like to thank Natalie Lopes, who, having managed the bar so well for the last 10 months, is moving on to take up a new beautician job. She will be replaced by Jennifer Russell who joined the bar staff last year.

BAR QUESTIONNAIRE

All members should have received a **SurveyMonkey** questionnaire about the bar. Please answer this questionnaire so that the club can analyse the results and try to improve the bar in accordance with members' wishes.

CLUB MATTERS

VENUE AND PARTY HIRE

Don't forget that the club house can be hired for social and business events with and without the bar and bar staff.

Members get a 20% discount. Visit:



www.slccc.co.uk/venue-hire for more information or contact Wayne at: slccc_lettings@hotmail.co.uk

OPEN DAY – SPREAD THE WORD

The club's Open Day will be on Bank Holiday Monday, 5 May when there will be an opportunity to have a free racketball taster session for all. Visitors can also try out the tennis, squash and croquet facilities and we will be running supervised activities for children. Plus we are offering a 20% discount to new members joining on the day. So invite your friends, family and colleagues to what is sure to be a fun event.

A BETTER WAY TO PAY!



Pay your subscriptions by direct debit and save money. From 1 January paying by cheque, bank transfer and cash will cost you more. So when it comes to renewing your membership consider direct debit. Not only is it more convenient and cheaper, but the club now offers ALL adult playing members the option to spread the cost of their membership over three or six months. Or choose to make a single payment if you prefer.

Visit: www.slccc.co.uk/direct-debits for more information.

ALREADY PAYING BY DIRECT DEBIT?

Please provide us with a new direct debit mandate so that we can transfer you payment details to our new direct debit processor. You can do this now by downloading a direct debit mandate from www.slccc.co.uk/direct-debits or you can wait until you next renew.

SAYING GOODBYE TO SNAIL MAIL!

Keep an eye on your inbox for your renewal notice and for other information from the club. Put admin@slccc.co.uk into your email address book to be sure not to miss your renewal date!

TENNIS

TEAM NEWS

Congratulations to Ladies 4 and Mixed 3 who won their divisions this winter. Men's 1 and 2 finished second in their divisions and, the good news so far is that, at the time of printing, no teams have been relegated.

SUMMER TEAMS

Teams will shortly be selected for the summer leagues. Team members are asked to remember that in the Kent league there are five matches and in the North Kent League, ten matches per team. All team members are expected to play in all matches. These will be scheduled any time from 5 April to 10 August. If you are unable to make any dates, let Jeff know so that these dates can be avoided.

NEW - SUMMER TOURNAMENT ENTRY FORMS

Watch out for our new Summer Tennis Tournament entry forms which will be available in early March both online at www.slccc.co.uk/members and in the club house foyer. Entry fees can still be paid by purchasing stamps from the machine in the foyer, but this year we are asking members to attach them to their entry form. Be sure to return your form by noon on Sunday, 13th April as only forms received by this date and bearing the correct entry fee will qualify for entry into the draw.



MIXED SINGLES LEAGUE

Following the success of the online Squash and Racketball League, the Mixed Singles League is going online too. This will mean that all players will be able to contact each other by email and enter their scores online, making it much easier for members to arrange matches.

NEW! WOMEN'S SINGLES LEAGUE

The Women's Singles League stopped running in 2012 and there have been requests to start it up again. If there is enough interest, the club is hoping to re-start this league online in March. All female members should have received an email about this league already and several positive responses have been received. However, a few more women are needed to make the new league a real success, so please sign up. If you would like to join, or require any further information, please email Gillian at gillian.bartlett@slccc.co.uk

NEW! SAVE MONEY ON YOUR TENNIS LESSONS!

From April we will be offering members a reduction of £1 on all our adult group coaching lessons. So if you'd like to improve your tennis, now's the time to think about signing up for next term's programme. To find out more about tennis lessons email helen.beddoe@slccc.co.uk for dates and availability.

TENNIS COMMITTEE

Jeff Richards has returned to the job he held a few years ago as chair of the Tennis Committee, following Barbara Cavanagh's resignation. Many thanks go to Barbara for all her hard work.

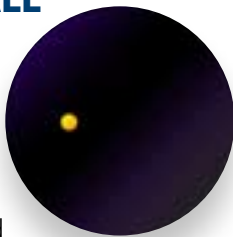
Meanwhile, a warm hand goes to Dave Burrows who, as a new recruit to the Tennis Committee, has offered to press-gang volunteers needed to run Open Day in May and Finals Day in July. Dave would love to hear from you before you hear from him!

FREE BAR VOUCHERS

We are giving full adult playing members* vouchers worth £7.50 to spend in the bar. Join, or renew your membership and you could be relaxing in the bar with a FREE drink when you come off the tennis court. Find out more about bar opening times and how to get your FREE vouchers by visiting www.slccc.co.uk/free-vouchers
*Conditions apply.

SQUASH AND RACKETBALL YEAR REVIEW

2013 was a good year for the Squash and Racketball Section. Not only did membership increase to 73, which is 10 higher than 2012, but the relatively warm winter has also seen an increased usage of the courts. 2014 is off to a good start as we welcome a further 14 new members.



LEAGUES

Thanks to Hugh Macnicol (Squash) and Dave Roberts (Racketball) for organising a challenging set of leagues and competitions. Congratulations are due to our squash team who won promotion last year and are now in the higher North Kent Squash League.

SQUASH HANDICAP TOURNAMENT - NOV 2013

The finals were hard fought with a very challenging set of games with most of them taking five sets. In Division A, Hugh Macnicol prevailed over Dale Rimmington, with Andy Nelson winning the Plate and Tony Hurley Best of the Rest.

In Division B, the final was between two veterans - Dave Roberts and Nick David - proving that age is no barrier to squash. Dave won, whilst Steve Nash won the Plate and Sean Barron Best of the rest.

RACKETBALL TOURNAMENT

The Racketball Winter Handicap Tournament final was held on 1st March. For the results visit www.slccc.co.uk/racketball-tournament-results

THURSDAY CLUB NIGHT

The section is looking to reinvigorate club night on Thursdays. Players are encouraged to come down and also hopefully have the "apres-squash" in the bar, which is normally open on Thursdays.

FREE SQUASH COURT BOOKING CREDIT!

Join, or renew* an existing full adult squash and racketball membership, and we will send you vouchers worth £3 towards your squash court bookings. For more information visit www.slccc.co.uk/free-vouchers
*Conditions apply.

CROQUET

NEW MOWER

Due to adverse weather conditions throughout the winter, there is not much to report. However, the new mower will be in action soon, ready for the summer season.

HAVE A DRINK ON US!

Join the croquet section, or renew your membership during 2014 and we will give you a voucher worth £2.50 to spend in the bar*. What better way to round off a game of croquet! For more information visit www.slccc.co.uk/free-vouchers *Conditions apply.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

QUIZ NIGHT - 28 March, 7.30pm

OPEN DAY - 5 May, 11 am to 2pm

CROQUET SEASON STARTS - 29th/30th March

WIMBLEDON BALLOT NIGHT - 25 April

AMERICAN TOURNAMENT - Easter Monday 21 April
- further details will be available on the website shortly.

FINALS DAY - 19 July

To keep up-to-date with news and events at the club visit www.slccc.co.uk

Follow us on



www.twitter.com/slccc



www.facebook.com/sydenhamtennis



JUNIORS

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TENNIS CAMPS

Chris and Michael and their helpers will be running more tennis camps this year.

Make a note of the dates for our Easter, summer half-term and summer holiday camps.

Easter Camps

Monday 7 April to Thursday 10 April

Monday 14 April to Thursday 17 April

Spring Half Term Camp

Tuesday 27 May to Friday 30 May

Summer camps

Monday 21 July to Thursday 24 July

Monday 28 July to Thursday 31 July

Monday 4 August to Thursday 7 August

Monday 11 August to Thursday 14 August

Monday 18 August to Thursday 21 August

It will be possible to enrol on the camps online about three weeks prior to the camp. Make sure you sign up in time as last year several weeks in the summer were fully booked. For more information and to book visit

www.sltcc.co.uk/junior-tennis-camps

£1 OFF COACHING LESSONS FOR OVER 8s

Did you know that as a member of the club, you can save £1 off group coaching lessons and £3 off 1-2-1 lessons? And if you're already having coaching at the club and are not a member yet, you can join for just £38 – a saving of 20% - and grab your coaching discount and a whole range of other membership benefits, too.

Visit www.sltcc.co.uk/benefits-of-junior-tennis-membership for more information or email

info@sltcc.co.uk.

OUR 2014 JUNIOR TOURNAMENT PROGRAMME WILL START AGAIN IN MARCH

Here are details of the March and April dates for your diary.

14 March - **Mini Tennis Green**

28 March - **16 & Under**

4 April - **12 & Under**

25 April - **14 & Under**

For more information and to download an application form at www.sltcc.co.uk/junior-tennis-tournaments, speak to Chris or Michael, or email info@sltcc.co.uk

TEAM NEWS

Congratulations to the 12 & Under boys' team who, having won their final, went on to represent North Kent in the AEGON 12 & under competition on 23rd February and were runners up against Hythe and Tunbridge Wells. Well done!

LUCOZADE VENDING MACHINE.

Due to the unreliability of the vending machine in the kitchen coupled with a huge rent increase, the club has asked the supplier to take the machine away.

We are sorry for any disappointment. Members and guests will still be able to help themselves to a healthy glass of tap water from the kitchen at all times and the bar will sell Lucozade and other soft drinks during normal opening hours. www.sltcc.co.uk/bar-opening-hours

SUPERVISED TENNIS FOR FREE!

Have you tried our weekly tennis sessions yet? We run club play for 8-11s every Wednesday during term-time and for 12s and over on Saturday mornings throughout the year. Sessions are supervised by a coach and include organised games and a competitive ladder as well as lots of fun!. FREE for members, non-members £5. For more information about club play visit

www.sltcc.co.uk/junior-club-play

www.sltcc.co.uk

SYDENHAM TENNIS CLUB | LAWRIE PARK ROAD | SE26 6ET