

GET A GRIP! BTC NEWSLETTER

2024 *The new tennis season*

Anyone for Tennis?

Next Team Matches

Ladies' 1st Team-20th April

Ladies' 2nd Team – 23rd April

Spring League- 28th April

Cup & Saucer- 2nd May

Men's 1- 3rd May

Ladies 2nd – 3rd May

Ladies' 1st – 14th May

Cup & Saucer – 17th May

Tournaments open to all members,
contact captains if you're interested
and note the Selection Policy (on the



The New Tennis Season!

The new season started with our AGM. There was a lot of discussion and focus on how the club should develop over the coming year. The key areas raised by those attending and those able to comment prior to the meeting where we need to improve included,

- Grow membership
- Encourage more attendance at social play
- Teams play
- Communication
- Club promotion
- Retention of existing members
- Clarity over committee roles and responsibilities
- Maximising the opportunity Microsports.
- Social Events

We will be working on a development plan over the next few weeks and updates will be sent out when we have worked through the options.

We'd like to say a huge thanks to those who volunteer to help at events or tidying the grounds for all their hard work, especially Phil Davies and Suzanne Bishop. We also welcomed Jon Clark, who has joined the committee as our new Club Secretary.

Reminders

If anyone hasn't joined yet, membership fees are now due and should be paid as soon as possible.

Tennis Balls

Tennis balls are one of our largest expenses. Unlike most clubs we provide all the balls for our members to play with, whether for matches or just general play. Could we remind you all to look after them!

Please only take one can of balls on court when you play, and please do collect them up if they go out of court when you finish and return them in the can to the clubhouse.

If they are wet, leave them out to dry so they will be ready for the next players, and please do not take them away from the club. They are there for everyone.

A question was raised for discussion at the AGM whether we should stop providing balls and reduce the membership fee. The annual cost of us providing the balls works out at around £10 per member, so it was agreed unanimously that we would continue with the existing arrangement.

Clubhouse

Please keep the clubhouse door closed, we've had problems in the past meaning there is damage to the hinges, so it could be a real problem if the wind catches it and it swings open.

Internet

Internet access in the clubhouse is a service for the RSCC and should not be used by BTC members. We have suggested they change the password, but please do not access it. It is something we don't pay for as a club.

Club Open Tournament

The invitations will be coming out shortly for the Club Open Tournament, you can enter singles, doubles, mixed or veterans. Finals weekend will be 14th and 15th September. Please note if you cannot make that date, do not enter the tournament.

The closing date for entries is the 11th of May, contact Jan by email, phone or text (please note not on WhatsApp "anyone for tennis"!).

Team Matches

Don't forget your matches! Keep a track of which teams you volunteered for and those matches you'll be playing in. If you can't make it, please ensure you contact the captains as soon as possible to give them time to find a reserve!

BTC teams play in the Birmingham Area Lawn Tennis League (BALTL), Metropolitan Summer League (MSL) as well as The Ladies Cup & Saucer.

Table Tennis Club

The table tennis club meets on Wednesday evenings in the Clubhouse from 7 – 9pm. They are always looking for new players, all our members are eligible to play, so if you're interested turn up or drop Malcolm Rose a message.

Sunday Morning “Gentle Tennis”

There is a Sunday morning group playing at 10.30 - 12.30. Anyone is welcome to join in, but it is aimed at being a gentler experience, so the focus is on quality, accuracy and placement – as well as fun, rather than trying to break any ball speed records!

The Ogley Cup

A great afternoon's tennis and tea. Thanks to all the players and those who joined for tea as well. Congratulations to our winners, Jan and Gary, and runners-up Rob and Chris.

Next Tournament date for your diary!

Morris and Mayors on Sunday 12th May details will be out soon, if anyone would like to help with the organisation of the event, let Jan or Greg know asap!

Social Events Coming Up

This was one of the areas identified by members to focus on during 2024.

We had hoped to run a quiz earlier in the year, but unfortunately the venue was unable to confirm they could provide any food options, so it was deferred. We will be working on putting together a diary of events shortly.

Ideas proposed on the notice board by members included Quiz Night, Fish & Chip supper, Wimbledon Event and BBQ, Open Day and BBQ.

Anyone for Tennis? – Summer Timetable

Monday

Adult Mixed Coffee morning & Coaching (1.5 hour) @ 10am

Men's night from 6pm

Tuesday

Ladies' night from 6pm

Wednesday

Adult Mixed Club Social @1pm

Thursday

Adult Mixed Club Social Play from 6pm

Saturday

Children 4-6yrs mini red coaching (45mins) @ 9am

Children 6-8yrs mini orange coaching (1 hour) @10am

Children 9-11yrs coaching (1 hour) @ 11:15am

Adult Mixed Club Social from 1pm

Coaching

As many of you will now know our coaching is provided by Microsports, run by Paul Bayliss with Yasmin being our resident coach. She currently runs the junior sessions on Saturday's and the Monday coffee morning group.

We'll be working with them both over the next few weeks to introduce a development plan to both broaden the offering to members while looking to increase membership for adults and juniors.

Watch This Space 🤖 @#

Please visit our social media platforms to find all the club activities & results.

Also do send in your ideas & contributions for the newsletter. Looking forward to a 2024 of enjoyable tennis & our rebooted social calendar.

