

## April 2020 Newsletter

An unprecedented time currently means that the Club is closed until further notice. We have followed the Government and LTA guidance as the situation has developed over the last few weeks and the statement below is taken from the LTA Coronavirus (Covid-19) guidance –

*The absolute priority of everyone in Britain needs to be protecting the health of the nation, with a requirement to dramatically adjust our behaviour to help slow the spread of the disease, prevent the NHS from being overwhelmed, and ultimately save lives. The way everyone can do this is by complying with the Government's guidance and staying at home.*

*Following the Prime Minister's announcement on Monday evening (23 March) all tennis facilities and courts should be closed, and tennis coaching and activity should be put on hold with immediate effect.*

At this point all we can do is to follow the national instructions and assist all members of our local community as we all endeavour to stay safe and well. The production of this newsletter is not an attempt to appear that 'things are carrying on as normal', as clearly, they are not; however, we felt it was important to continue to communicate with all our members at this time.

### Club Membership

Sarah and Sue have already sent out information concerning membership renewals and possible difficulties as a result of the economic impact of the Coronavirus outbreak.

*'Thank you to all the members who have already paid their membership fees. It really helps the Club as we have ongoing financial commitments to make during this Coronavirus crisis and membership fees make up the majority of our normal income. We are conscious that members will miss court time due to the shut down and we are aiming to hold a virtual committee meeting whereby we will be discussing ideas to acknowledge the members who have already paid and those who do pay their fees whilst the courts are closed. We will keep you updated.'* Sue Hendry

We are a growing and thriving club and all of our members are very important to us – we will do our utmost to be fair to all members in these very difficult circumstances. If anyone needs anything during this period please let us know.

Sarah Szunko: [shmembership@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:shmembership@hotmail.co.uk)

Sue Hendry: [shlhc-chairman@hotmail.com](mailto:shlhc-chairman@hotmail.com)



### Club Management Committee



You will recall in the previous newsletter that we asked if anyone else apart from Gary Birney (left) would like to come forward for the vacant Committee position. A vote with the full proposer and seconder arrangement will take place at the next meeting (or via social media) to ratify Gary's appointment to the Committee.



## Club developments

The Club is still very much committed to developing the playing facilities and providing an inclusive tennis site for use by members and the local community. All clubs are facing the same issues currently and it is very hard to do a great deal of forward planning at this point.

However, the aim to develop the shale courts, provide flood lighting to a number of courts and improve accessibility around the Club remains paramount.



We have been contacting local and national businesses/organisations in terms of financial support and we are aware of the loans available through the LTA. It is imperative that we grow our membership numbers and, prior to the 'lock down', many members volunteered to leaflet houses in our local area. The current situation has forced the postponement of many Club activities that were designed to increase the profile of the Club and attract new members. We will aim to hold some of these events much later in the summer if possible.

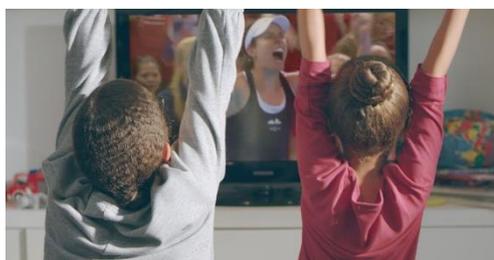
There is a strong commitment to develop SHLTC for all going forward and we will of course ensure that members are made aware of all plans and activities at the appropriate time.

## 100 Club

Thank you to all members who expressed an interest in this scheme previously. At the moment we believe it is best to put this 'on hold' and will be back in touch when we return to normal.

## Tennis at home!

The current restrictions have seen a vast number of on-line tennis videos, posts and activities. The LTA website has a large number of tennis activities that can be undertaken at home!



Screen shots captured from the LTA website



## Activity Cards

Here are some fun, tennis themed activities for you do at home. If you're looking for physical activities then make sure you watch the videos above.



Tennis Activity Cards for 4-7 years

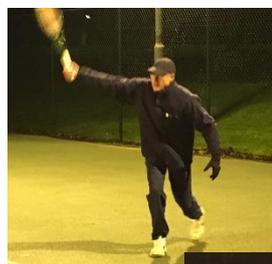
Download



Tennis Activity Cards for 8-11 years

Download





### 2019/2020 Floodlit League

There was an early conclusion to the leagues, however most games had been played and only two rounds of league matches were un-played.

Well done to Fraser Bell who was champion winning the first division twice in the season!

Congratulations to the following who were runners up!

- Adem Ismail
- Colin Lewis
- Mark Harris
- Bill Moore
- Ben White
- Tom Player



*Some images from a Monday night in January!*



## 2019/2020 Floodlit League



The results from the final set of league matches are included below –

Division 1 : Tom Player and Fraser Bell  
Division 2 : Mark Harris and Julie Brassil  
Division 3 : Richard Chandler and Tom Humphries  
Division 4 : Chris Wise and Millie Morrison

Congratulations to the above pairs for winning their divisions!

Martyn recently provided the following statistics for 2019/20 – *‘Over the season 232 league and cup matches were played, of which 189 were decided and only 43 ended in draws. A total of 419 sets and 3645 games were completed at an average of 1.81 sets per hour and 15.71 games per hour!’*

The ratio prizes were awarded to -

1 <sup>st</sup> man;	Chris Wise	ratio 173 (121 games for, 70 games against)
2 <sup>nd</sup> man;	Tom Player	ratio 1.66 (164 to 99)
1 <sup>st</sup> lady;	Alison Lewis	ratio 1.25 (124 to 99)
2 <sup>nd</sup> lady;	Millie Morrison	ratio 1.20 (145 to 121)
3 <sup>rd</sup> lady;	Julie Brassil	ratio 1.15 (142 to 123)

The ability to play throughout the year on a Monday evening has been a key feature of what our Club offers and around 60 to 70 players are regularly involved in the floodlit leagues. It is particularly encouraging that so many of our younger players are featuring so readily in all of the divisions. Well done to all the players that have participated during this season!

A special note of thanks must be given to Martyn who organises this league magnificently – we are all really grateful for his time, patience and hard work. Thank you Martyn!



## March Tennis and Curry afternoon

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March we held a social tennis and curry afternoon, which was a great success. Ali again prepared a delicious curry tea for all those attending and the whole afternoon, plus raffle, raised £130 for Club funds.



Well done to Marion who was one of the raffle prize winners!

Thanks once again to Ali and all members who supported the event.





*Some photos of the event held in March (before the full extent of social distancing was applied!!)*



**SHLTC**  
STOCKTON HEATH LAWN TENNIS CLUB

### Food Bank



Thank you to all members who contributed to the Club's food bank appeal prior to Christmas. This was very successful and we intend to continue the opportunity for members to donate food after the current restrictions are lifted. Sadly, it is expected that food bank provision will be needed more than ever once the Coronavirus restrictions are lifted.

More information will be circulated at the appropriate time.

### And finally .....!

We are all missing our tennis but so are the stars of our sport – see how Roger Federer is coping with it! Google Federer trick shot!

All professional tennis has been cancelled currently, but the BBC plan to screen classic games and finals in the summer!

@rogerfederer

Making sure I still remember how to hit trick shots #TennisAtHome



SHLTC website  
[www.shltc.co.uk](http://www.shltc.co.uk)



*We hope that all our members and their families remain well at this very difficult time. We will continue to communicate via email – the next newsletter will be issued once we start playing again. The Club's website will shortly have past newsletters on there.*

