



LYNDHURST LAWN TENNIS CLUB

**Newsletter - Summer 2020**

Shortly after we published our Spring Newsletter a new word entered the English language – LOCKDOWN. The world changed and we were confined to home for 7 weeks, except for brief outings for exercise or essential shopping. No meeting family or friends, no holidays, and no tennis! Instead, hand sanitising, face masks and isolation. I do hope you and your family stayed clear of COVID-19. Thankfully we are gradually emerging from lockdown and Club tennis has resumed with clear guidelines on hygiene and safety.

We are pleased to welcome 18 new members who have joined the Club since April and it is good to see that the courts are being well used. Booking is now mandatory – but if your plans change, please cancel to free the courts for other members.

Coaching is back in full swing. Club Coach Neil Webb has resumed his scheduled coaching sessions, Saps continues his sterling work for the benefit of members, and we welcome Candy Harrop, who brings huge experience to the Club.

Safety in all aspects of Club life will always be our prime concern and, following a rare accident when a member fell during a 'Big Hitters' evening, we have reviewed our Risk Assessment for on-court activities.

With the easing of lockdown, this year's Club Championships can now go ahead – thanks to Ann van Hoof and Chris Ellis for organising.

The Box League has recommenced with a bumper entry – thanks to Mike Bowles and Alan Hales for their work.

Two Committee meetings have been successfully held on Zoom and we are considering options for the AGM in November.

I would like to thank Brian van Hoof and Andrew Clough for keeping the club campus in good order (within lockdown rules), and my thanks also to Andrew for his advice on Health & Safety. Finally, to all those who work unseen and unsung to keep the Club running, a big 'Thank You'.

Now let's play some tennis!

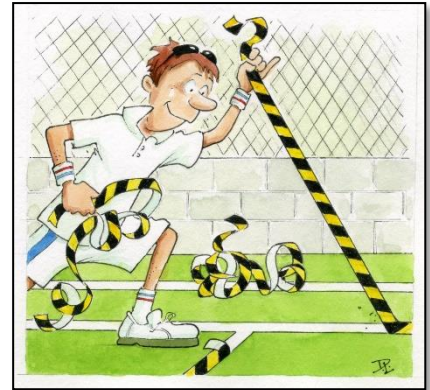
**Tony Roe – Chairman**

## Playing It Safe

March  
2020



May  
2020



### COVID-19: update from Andrew Clough

Isn't it great that we're all back on court again, when many (including me) thought it might be November before it would be possible! I won't repeat here what we all now know about COVID-19, but I want to thank all of you for your considerable patience and understanding during these difficult times. Sometimes it has been tricky to follow the confusing messages coming from both our Government and the LTA, but I believe the Club has reacted promptly and sensibly to the situation.

At the time of writing, our Clubroom remains closed, except for essential purposes, but this will probably change very soon. It remains important for the foreseeable future to follow all the guidelines that are in place, especially **hand washing** and **social distancing**. Courts should still be booked and group sessions must maintain a register, in case we need to trace who has played when. Thank you, again, for your continuing help to keep yourselves and your fellow members safe.

As always, if anyone has any Safeguarding or Health & Safety concerns, please email me at any time and, together with all your Committee, I will ensure that issues are promptly and properly addressed.

### Safety on Court

Injuries can happen in most action sports, including tennis. Fortunately accidents have been rare at our Club, but following a recent incident when a member collided with a floodlight tower on Court 3 we have reviewed our Risk Assessment for on-court hazards. Most hazards on and around our courts are typical of many tennis clubs, but we are looking again at the practicality of fixing some form of protection to the concrete wall alongside Court 2 to reduce the risk of injury.

The Club has a regular programme of brushing to keep the courts in good condition, but it remains the responsibility of individual members to wear proper tennis shoes and to ensure the court is fit for play in the weather conditions prevailing at the time.

### Defibrillators Save Lives



For the benefit of all members, both new and old, here's a repeat of our annual reminder about the defibrillator, provided jointly by the Tennis, Drama and Bowls Clubs and stored in the main Clubhouse corridor.

Can you remember how to use the defibrillator? Click [HERE](#) to watch a short video. (Note: The video also shows a 'CPR Device', which our defibrillator does not include.)

To access the defibrillator you will need to:

- Have a key for the Clubroom.
- Know where to find the large key fob (usually stored in the Clubroom cupboard).
- Unlock the access door to the main Clubhouse corridor.
- Find the defibrillator cabinet (**on the wall opposite the toilets**).

... and don't be surprised when the alarm sounds as you open the cabinet door.

Organizers of group sessions might simply choose to unlock the door to the corridor throughout play – of course **remembering to lock it when finished**.

Please don't be put off by all this health and safety advice – tennis is definitely good for you and we have all missed it during lockdown.



*But our resourceful Members have watched their diet and kept themselves fit*

## On the Courts

### Weekly Schedule

This has now resumed – see the [website](#) for details. Please note that on and off the court social distancing needs to be observed. It is great to be together again. Let's hope the weather continues to 'play the game'.

## **Club Championships – organised this year by Ann van Hoof and Chris Ellis**

The closing date for entries has passed and round robin matches have commenced. We have a good lot of entries and most competitions are being run. Well done to everyone who has entered and good luck for all your matches.

The Club championships have been an annual event at the club for many years. Take a look at the names and dates on the trophies, there is a lot of history there. The event and finals day are always pretty well supported. This year's matches must be completed by 31st August and Finals Day is on Saturday 5th September for the Open events and Saturday 12th September for the Vets events. Details have been sent out to all members and are on the posters at the club.

This year we again tinkered with the age groups and format following feedback from members. A sample survey resulted in choosing 55 years as our vets' age this year which follows the age category of the vets' men's team and more appropriately fits the age range of members. Also this year a member could only enter one of the age categories, so a 55 year old man could enter either the Open Men's singles or the Vets' Men's singles - but not both! This change was to increase the number of different members involved in Finals Days.

On Finals Days we want to take the opportunity to also celebrate this season's safe return to tennis and, if government guidance and weather allows, we want to create a 'party' atmosphere and socially enjoy food and drink with members, families and friends. Please put the dates on your calendars now and more details will follow nearer the time. (...We're thinking cakes, bunting, balloons, American supper, BBQ, and more!!) And don't forget that everyone that has entered the competition will be eligible for the Grand Prize which will be drawn on Finals Day.

## **Box league**

The new box league has started and runs from 17 June until 30 September.

There is a [Box League](#) section on the club website where you can follow the progress of the 15 pairings which include some of our new members. The Box league is an ideal way to meet other members, the tennis is competitive but friendly and with the aid of a bit of 'selection' the randomised pairings are usually quite well matched. At the end of this league new pairings will be drawn so please let Mike Bowles know if you would like to be included for the Autumn series

## **Coaching**

Coach Candy Harrop and her family have recently joined the Club as members. Candy was a coach in the USA, where she had her own academy, and she is now senior coach at David Lloyd. She is also the current GB Women's over 40s singles and doubles clay court champion.



## Committee News

### Annual General Meeting – 13<sup>th</sup> November 2020



Given the challenge of social distancing in the Clubroom, this year's AGM will likely be a virtual meeting held on Zoom. Members might already have experienced using the Zoom app, but please ask any Committee member if you need advice. Plan ahead to participate!

### "On Yer Bike"

Brenda Freer and her family have kindly donated a bike rack in memory of Bill, who was a very keen cyclist. It will be sited between the Clubhouse and the practice court so that members who cycle to the Club can park their bikes safely while playing. Our thanks go to the Freer family for this highly appropriate memorial to a popular member.

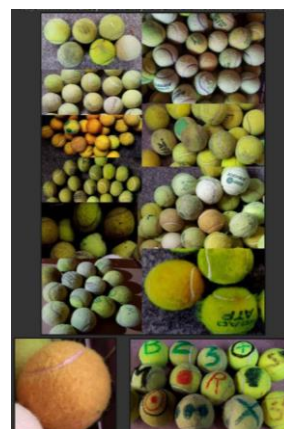
### Recycling Tennis Balls

Debbie Elsworth has found a company that recycles tennis balls and actually pays per ball sent! Recycaball, a not-for-profit company, has been running since 2011 and is now recycling with over 1,400 clubs and coaches throughout the UK. The majority of balls are re-pressurised and given a new lease of life. The company is keen to support children's charities and balls are also donated to police dogs etc.

There is a container in the Clubroom for members to recycle unwanted balls. **However, the company only accepts balls of a certain standard. No children's softer balls e.g. green, orange etc are accepted, nor heavily marked or worn balls that have been out in all weathers.**



*Balls fit for recycling*



*A load of old balls*

If you have any used balls of a suitable standard, please leave them in the Clubroom container and they will be sent off when we have enough to make it worthwhile. Thank you!

## Spot the Differences?



*May 2017*



*May 2020*

The new reality of social distancing isn't the only change to have come about in the interval between these pictures being taken. Do you remember:

- The monkey-puzzle tree that dropped tough, triangular leaves onto the bottom court.
- The erstwhile Christmas trees that grew into giant Douglas firs shedding needles and debris over the courts.
- The uneven and often-muddy path from the Clubroom to the courts.
- The old floodlights that leaked their light far beyond the court boundaries.

All now things of the past – sometimes change can be for the better!

## Newsletter

This edition has had a bumper set of cartoons – once again thank you to David Lock for these contributions

### **Next edition**

We intend to publish the Autumn edition in October.

**Newsletter Editors:** Sue Moss & Angus Brown

Please contact any of the committee or the editors via the website using [this link](#)