

Autumn Newsletter 2023



HELLO FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome to our Autumn 2023 newsletter. The weather may have been a bit of a wash out this summer but that hasn't prevented plenty of tennis taking place. Also, the new Box League qualifier format for the club champs has kept the courts busy for most of August – which was great to see.

We've had six teams playing in the leagues throughout the summer (see details below).

It's great that we get to take part in these matches which are good fun and give us an opportunity to play at other clubs and improve our standards. However, as a small club, we are often short of players and would welcome more volunteers. Don't be concerned about your standard of play, you won't have to return 100mph serves or move like Carlos Alcaraz. The only way to improve is to play more and the Club matches provide an excellent opportunity to do that, as well as some tasty cakes!

We also recently held the club Champs finals on a glorious September day where the sun shone and some great tennis was enjoyed by everyone, more on this later.

Back in the Spring, we introduced a trial pickle-ball facility on our practice court. It does appear to be used to some degree and I would welcome your views on whether we should complete the transformation of the practice court into a regulation-sized pickle-ball court. We could then take a vote at the AGM later this year.

I am pleased to say that we have restarted junior coaching for the autumn term. Initially this has been run by club members as we are in the process of engaging a new coach. Please contact me if you would like details so your children can join in the fun and learn some new skills or you would like to volunteer to help out.

Our Club grounds continue to look top notch. Many thanks to all our volunteers who help to keep them like this, particularly Andrew who is doing a great job as always.

I look forward to seeing you all on the courts this Autumn and let's hope the weather is kind to us.

And finally, two of our members have undergone some health issues recently and we would like to wish them well in their recovery. We hope to see both Nina and Suzy back on the courts soon.

Rob Salter

ON THE COURTS



The LTA awarded Lyndhurst with the trophy for the Men's team as winners of last year's Division 4 now proudly displayed in the Clubhouse.

The Summer Championship

Our Club Championships this year were held on Saturday 9th September. Although temperatures were absolutely soaring we all enjoyed a fun day with an extremely high level of tennis. It was great to see lots of members coming to support the players as well as to enjoy the tasty refreshments which everyone kindly brought, especially Kathleen's Pimms and Brigitta's cider.



We had a lot of entrants this year which made for a very exciting competition. However, in the Vets, there were no Ladies or Men's Singles entrants. Also due to the heat the Vets Men's Doubles is still to be played. **Debbie Elsworth**



Open Men's Singles: Matt Elsworth bt Josh Denham 6-3, 6-4



Open Ladies Doubles: Ann Van Hoof/Helen Gunter bt Hayley Taylor/Gill Ellis 3-6, 6-0, 6-2



Open Ladies Singles: Anna Boron bt Ann Van Hoof 6-0, 6-2



Open Mixed Doubles
Hayley Taylor/James Elsworth bt Brigitta Barna/Rob Salter 6-2, 6-4



Open Men's Doubles: Rob Salter/Josh Denham bt James/Matt Elsworth 7-6 (TB 11-9), 6-3



Vets Ladies Doubles: Ros Bowles/Gill Ellis bt Jane Mason/Sue Jones 6-4, 6-3



Vets Mixed Doubles: Helen Gunter/Mike Ashley bt Ann & Brian Van Hoof 6-2, 6-1

Vets Men's Doubles: Tbc

Congratulations to all the players who took part. Also, we would like to thank all the members who helped with setting up the refreshments including the delicious lunch kindly contributed by all and those who kept the lawn mown to make everything look sparkling

Club Champs Review

Following this year's club champs we intend to hold a debrief meeting and review all aspects of the club champs at Lyndhurst. We aim to produce a full pack containing the format, structure and rules that will be followed at all future club championships. This will then be signed off by the committee and displayed on the website.

Please give us your thoughts and feedback say on any aspect of the Club Champs whether this is dates, ages, round robins or finals day.

Please Email Ann.vanhoof@aol.com by the end of September to have your feedback considered.

Box league

The Spring Box league reached its conclusion at the end of June with Brigitta Barna and Peter Jones coming out on top. Christine Thomas and Chris Mason and Maggie Rose and Alan Hales were joint runners up and so well done to you all. Another close contest and great turn-out. We had 13 teams, our second highest to date.

We decided to skip the Summer league in favour of the Club Championships. We are now back on track with the Autumn league which started on September 1st and will run through until November 30th. Looking forward to more fun and hopefully some settled weather so less interruptions than last time around!



The Box League Winners were Brigitta and Peter (middle)

Graham Charlesworth

Club Teams - Summer season 23 update

We had six teams in action this summer. As always, our players have given their all so well done to them and thank you for volunteering to play, provide refreshments and travel to other clubs. Our captains also deserve recognition for the amazing jobs they do – we couldn't play the matches without you.

Men's doubles: Against some very tough opposition, the Men's team finished mid table and will be remaining in Div 3. **Matt Ellsworth**

Ladies doubles: This team enjoyed some thrilling matches. At the time of writing, they have completed their matches and are top of the table. With two other results still to come, Lyndhurst will either finish top or second and will therefore be promoted to Div 3. Well done Ladies.

Men's Vets: The team had a tough season this year with two players away on sailing commitments for a number of the matches. This leaves us second from bottom in the division which may mean we are relegated next year. **Rob Salter**

Ladies Vets: Three resounding wins for the team but they also lost three very close matches just on overall number of sets or games won. They finished mid table and are set to remain in Div 2. **Gill Ellis**

Mixed 'A' Team Match Report: To put it bluntly, we have truly struggled in Division 2 this summer but we've had a lot of fun along the way. Sometimes it's difficult to find the top team players as our members are such a busy lot! Last week Twyford had the advantage when we had to play on grass that hadn't been mown! A ball that doesn't bounce straight is certainly annoying to say the least.

However we soldier on, and although we're in the relegation zone at the moment we are still in with a chance if we can only win our remaining matches!

I'd like to thank all those players who have supported the team this summer season! Onwards and Upwards! **Jill Trant**

AEGON National League

The National League was a success for the first year back with the team enjoying tightly contested singles and doubles rubbers, and some exciting matches going down to the last few points. The team will remain in the second division, which we're all looking forward to competing in again next year. **Matt Elsworth**

Club coaching

We are in the process of engaging a new coach to take on the majority of the coaching at Lyndhurst, in particular the junior coaching on a Friday afternoon.



Candy Harrop will continue to spend some time at the club although her other tennis commitments including broadcast commentary mean that her time is limited. She specialises in the four pillars of coaching: Technical, Tactical, Mental and Physical. This can be improved at any age; all it needs is a willingness to learn and have a growth mindset!

For one-to-one coaching please contact Candy on candidarh@gmail.com or 07497155286

Match Play Tennis Course

The Tuesday morning Coaching sessions continue to run, weather permitting - and hopefully everyone is not only enjoying it, but also improving their doubles prowess.

The 2023 Autumn course is due to start on Tuesday 26th September. The courses are now mostly full but for any enquiries please contact Ann.vanhoof@aol.com

AROUND THE CLUB

Committee news

The Club is run solely by volunteer members. It's our aim to maintain a healthy rotation of members on the committee to allow everyone to have a say in how things are run. We meet around four times a year and the tasks are really not onerous. We are open to new members joining so please contact the chairman Rob Salter if you are interested in joining.

Lisa Lane has kindly agreed to take on the role of club secretary – thank you Lisa.

Club membership

I am happy to report that membership of the Club remains steady, currently standing at 149 members.

So far this year we have had 24 new members joining us, with a nice mix of individuals, couples and families with children. I know that existing members will make them welcome and hope that they will enjoy playing tennis at Lyndhurst. **Sally Cleary**

Club website

This is designed to be a useful tool for all members and it also offers an insight into the Club for visitors and potential new members. Please have a browse and if you spot anything that needs updating let us know. **Angus Brown**

Wi-Fi, Website & Webcam Members wishing to make full use of Club internet facilities will need to know the relevant passwords. For technical reasons, different passwords are required to access: • The Dramatic-Tennis Wi-Fi network at the Clubhouse • The Members-only protected area of the Club website • Webcam coverage of the courts Passwords can be found in the Clubroom, inside the door of the floodlight switch cupboard.

The Club website can also be accessed via this link.

Official Club Clothing



Thirty-four members have benefitted from the most recent order of club clothing so look out for our smart members sporting T-shirts and fleeces all carrying our Club logo.

The company, Lotem Graphics, is willing to do small orders of just two or three at a time for us so if you'd like a new shirt or fleece please contact Ann directly

Ann.vanhoof@aol.com

Recycling old tennis balls

This is just a reminder to please use the ball recycling box in the pavilion. We have filled two bags over the last three weeks. The arrangement is that every time we fill the bag inside the container with old tennis balls, the Club will receive £37.50 from Recycaball.



Helen Gunter has kindly agreed to look after this for the Club and the bags of old balls will be collected from her house and then the payment made.

Over the past tax year, Recycaball has donated a total of £9,987 to charities such as Make a Wish, The Alzheimer's Society, RSPCA, Tennis for Free, The Brain Tumour Charity, Various Foodbanks and Cancer Research. £500 was also donated to the D.E.C Ukraine and to The Red Cross humanitarian aid for the people of Ukraine appeal.

Over the last 12 months, over 7 000 balls have been donated to the following charities: Under Privileged Nurseries, Children's Homes, Rescue Centres, Dogs Trust, RSPCA, Police Dogs, Guide Dogs and Armed Forces Dogs.

MAINTENANCE

The Club and its grounds are looking pretty tidy at the moment due to some hard work from Andrew and others. Andrew will be organising a work party to take on a number of more major tasks including applying preservative to the pavilion and clearance of the areas behind the courts. Please volunteer to help with these sessions if you are fit and able.

SAFEGUARDING

Lyndhurst LTC is committed to the safeguarding of children and adults who use the club. If you have any concerns regarding safeguarding at the Club please contact the Welfare Officer Alex James on alexandclairjames@gmail.com or 07772790609

THE DEFIBRILLATOR

Can you remember how to use the defibrillator and where to find it? It is about to be moved outside to make access easier so please make a mental note of where it is. To refresh your memory, please click [HERE](#) to watch a short video. (Note: The video also shows a 'CPR Device', which our defibrillator does not include.)

The Club newsletter is edited by Kate Chambers and Rob Salter. Please contact Kate on katec9929@gmail.com if you wish to contribute any news, snippets or photos to the next newsletter.