



ARTC SPRING NEWSLETTER 2024

Dear Members,

Welcome to the 2024 Spring Newsletter for ARTC, designed to give you an insight into the running of the club and to highlight what we have to offer for this summer.

This winter has been a challenge in maintaining the courts, especially court 3, and we would like to thank you all for your patience and understanding whilst we have worked hard to get it back to being playable for the summer season. But all that is behind us now and hopefully we can look forward to some sunshine and warm weather. Enjoy your tennis!

Chris Howat (ARTC Chair)

WHAT'S ON THIS SPRING?

Adult club nights

These are held on Thursday evenings from 6pm onwards - come and join in at whatever time is convenient for you. This is an opportunity to meet and mix with other members, play some informal, friendly games and perhaps try out some coaching tips and tactics. There is a WhatsApp group for anyone wishing to take part in these sessions. If you would like to be added to the group, or for more information, please contact James Dutton via info@artc.org.uk.

Adult Coaching by Pauline Belt

Coaching with Rob Jones will begin on **Monday 15th April at 6 pm**. The time may move forward when the light allows or change if there are enough interested numbers to create 2 groups. This session is ideal for those members playing in the mixed leagues and will focus on doubles tactics and practice drills. If there is interest, we can run the Intermediary/Development Coaching session.

Please text me to let me know that you are interested on 07981419760, or if you would like to be added to the Whatsapp group.

The sessions are great fun and a chance to meet other members. I will send a What's App message on the day before as a reminder and to find out the number of attending. Cost is £7 per person to pay by cash or bank transfer on the night.

Junior Coaching & Club sessions by Chris Howat

Jill Le Pla will lead the junior coaching on Wednesday afternoons during the summer term starting on **Wednesday 24th April**:

4pm - 5pm: LTA Youth Red (5 - 8 yrs old)

5pm - 6pm: LTA Youth Orange (8 - 11 yrs old)

Please see the poster attached or on the ARTC website for more information and how to book.

Jill is liaising with Appleton Roebuck Primary School to assist with the teaching of tennis as part of the school's curriculum. She is also keen to help with a repeat of the Wimbledon Experience Day, organised by Kelly Hunter, which was extremely successful last year. Jill is also planning to run some summer camps in the holidays - more information on these events nearer the time.

ARTC Junior club sessions will start on Friday 12th April:

4pm - 5pm: Tennis Fun 5 - 11 yrs old

5pm - 6pm: Teen Tennis 11 - 16 yrs old

These are supervised sessions, free to junior members, where you can come and enjoy friendly tennis and fun games to practice your tennis shots.

For more information or to join the sessions, please contact Chris via

info@artc.org.uk.

As we begin a new tennis season all children under the age of 13 using the courts outside of coaching or organised club activities must be accompanied by a parent or carer. Our chaperone membership, which is free of charge, allows a parent or carer to book a court and accompany their child on court. I would also like to remind parents that juniors (under 18yrs old) are not allowed in the clubhouse unless taking part in coaching or other organised club activities. I urge parents/carers to encourage junior members to respect these rules, so that we can maintain a safe and enjoyable place for all to play.

Mixed Doubles by Sara Heron

The club will once again be running with 4 mixed teams for the York League 2024 season.

This year we will be looking for new captains for our teams and would encourage anyone who is looking to play competitive tennis to consider this role. The captains support me in the selection of the teams each week and are responsible for submitting the team's match results to the League, a much simpler task since the introduction of online submissions. We cannot run 4 teams efficiently without members willing to volunteer in these positions and would therefore encourage you to consider this opportunity to support competitive mixed tennis at the club.

If you are willing to volunteer for a captaincy or would like to know more about the role, please contact me or any member of the committee or indicate on the Availability Form attached to this newsletter.

The league will run with 10 divisions in total with 8, 7 or 6 teams in each division. There are also 2 new teams joining the league this season: Tadcaster and Selby.

Home matches will take place on **Tuesday and Wednesday** evenings with a **6.30pm** start and the season will start on Monday 6 May.

Ladies' Doubles by Amanda McVey

We have entered 2 ladies' teams into the Fulford Invitation Tennis League. Details of the league fixtures and results are on www.yorktennisleague.co.uk. The teams will be run by Chris Howat and Amanda McVey who will set up new Whatsapp groups to contact members interested in playing for the ladies. They hope to organise practice sessions before the season starts and are currently asking lady members to indicate their availability by contacting them directly or via info@artc.org.uk.

Men's Doubles

We have entered two Men's teams into the league. If you are interested in playing or would like some further information, please contact Tom Shouksmith or Steve Temple via info@artc.org.uk. Fixtures are on www.yorkmenstennisleague.co.uk.

Tournaments

We have decided on the dates for the following tournaments:

- Mixed Doubles Harlequin Tournament Sunday 21 April 11-1pm
- Liz Maunder Spring Cup Trophy Friday 17 May 6-8pm
- David Bradley Memorial Cup Sunday 24 September 11-1pm

Keep a look out for the Doodles to enter these events which will be circulated about 4 weeks before the event.

Balls in the Clubhouse

Used match balls are available in the clubhouse for club sessions and social tennis. If you use them, please return after use and if wet/damp use the rack on the counter to dry them, rather than putting them back in the tins. We recycle old balls to raise funds for the club. If you have finished with your balls, please pop them in the labelled pink bin in the clubhouse.

If you would like to buy new cans of balls for £5 a tin contact Steve Temple via info@artc.org.uk.

Court and Clubhouse maintenance by Gary Carpenter & Chris Howat

The last few months has seen substantial maintenance to Court 3. 'Rejuvenation' of the court, by Replay has involved removal of the old sand and dirt, cleaning the astroturf and laying new sand at a cost of £8 150. This work will prolong the life of the court for a significant number of years. Replay have also revisited to 'Revive' courts 1 & 2 as part of the regular twice-yearly maintenance. It has included moss killing and checking the level of sand, thus extending the life of these courts, too. Even though the courts look good, **it is still important that they are dragged prior to being played on** to minimise contamination of the sand.

We have also been giving the clubhouse a facelift. Some external painting of woodwork was done by committee members last September. We then engaged a

professional painter and decorator to do the internal work, which was carried out at the end of February. He has recently also completed the external painting of soffits which were just too high for us to undertake!

A monthly Health & Safety assessment continues to be carried out and is posted on the noticeboard in the clubhouse for members. We monitor, review, update and follow LTA policies and guidelines to ensure good practice. Please let a committee member know or email info@artc.org.uk if you notice any damage on or around the courts, or in the clubhouse, or believe anything to be unsafe, so appropriate action can be taken.

Safeguarding by Chris Howat

ARTC aims to provide a safe and enjoyable environment for all children and young adults to play tennis. As Welfare Officer, I keep updated on any new developments within the LTA Safeguarding Standards. The club continues to meet all those standards and our policies can be viewed on the ARTC website. Please remember that everyone has the responsibility of reporting a safeguarding concern to me via welfare@artc.org.uk or by calling the LTA Safeguarding Team (Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm) 020 8487 7000, or the NSPCC 0808 800 5000. For anyone in immediate danger, please call 999.

Thank Yous and Welcomes by Chris Howat

At the AGM we said farewell to 3 of our committee members - Mary Jane Murray, Suzanne Webb and Vasilka Woods and thanked them for all their contributions to the running of the club. We then welcomed two new committee members - Tim Spakouskas and James Dutton. Tim has offered to set up an Instagram page for the club, to enhance our social media coverage alongside Keith Hunter who continues to administer the Facebook page. Tim and James have both offered to help with running the mixed teams and Thursday club nights. Tim has also offered to organise the making a scarecrow on behalf of the tennis club for the village Scarecrow Weekend on 22 and 23 June. We are aiming to raise the profile of the club within the local community and encourage new members to join. More details to follow nearer the time. If you are interested in becoming a committee member and helping to run the club, we would love to hear from you. Contact info@artc.org.uk.

Finally, a big thank you to Richard Barwick who has organised Court Maintenance for many years. He has arranged the twice yearly Revive process as well as leading a team of volunteers who have maintained the courts so diligently. However, he has now decided to step down from this role. I would like to thank him, on behalf of all our members, for his dedication in ensuring that our courts remain in good condition. We wish him well for his forthcoming hip operation and look forward to seeing him playing on the courts in due course.

New Members

The club always looks to recruit new members and if you would like to join, simply complete our membership package via the website or contact Pauline Belt or Amanda McVey to find out more information on info@artc.org.uk.

We look forward to welcoming new and existing members on the courts very soon and hope you have enjoyed this newsletter.

All the very best for an enjoyable season of tennis.

ARTC Committee

