

Aylsham Tennis Club AGM 2020

Chair's Report

Firstly, I would like to apologise for my absence this evening, this is the first AGM I have missed since starting the coaching programme in 2005, hopefully you will forgive me.

It's been another good year for the coaching programme and our players have continued to impress us with their commitment to their tennis at all levels.

The coaching programme we run consists of sessions in the local schools as well as sessions at the club. These sessions have continued to both introduce complete beginners to tennis and to develop some of the clubs more experienced players.

Juniors

We have encouraged more competition amongst our juniors this year. We have held events at Aylsham for our less experienced players which were very informal and some of our more experienced players have started competing externally. They have travelled to clubs in Cromer, Norwich, Ipswich and Cambridge for both singles and doubles competitions. We have also been continuing to develop links with Andy Margaron, Head Coach at Cromer Tennis Club. We have players attending extra sessions at Cromer and vice versa and have put joint teams into competitions when we are unable to raise full teams as individual clubs. This has proved to be positive for the players because they are getting additional tennis.

Several of our Under 14 boys have also been selected for tier 2 County Training at Easton College. These sessions involve coaching and match play sessions with other players from the county on a monthly basis. If selected for tier 1 these players go on to represent the county at summer and Winter fixtures.

School holiday tennis days have also continued to be popular with sessions run at Aylsham High School during February, May and October half terms, and during the Easter and Summer Holidays. These tennis days run from 10am-3pm and see the children receiving coaching in the mornings and match play in the afternoons. These are very well attended sessions with the emphasis on lots of fun and games. The Easter egg hunt and lunch time games were favourites. It turns out even teenagers still get excited about chocolate!

Adults

We have continued to coach many adults at the club with 1-1 and various group sessions.

Ladies morning has continued with a regular group of around 20 ladies taking part and average weekly attendance between 8-10 players. We also travelled to Cromer to take on the Cromer ladies in a very informal fun session. For some players this was the first time playing outside of coaching and was enjoyed by all despite initial nerves for some. A return fixture will be planned this season.

Gareth has continued coaching some of the club teams this season. The sessions have been organised by team captains and the feedback on these sessions has been really positive. We hope this helps the players in the coming season and we see some promotions for the teams into higher divisions.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to:

Keith Edwards, Groundsman – For looking after the courts

S and H Shed – for the donation of the coaching Shed. I have much more space in my car as a result!

Aylsham High School and Caretakers – For facilities in the holidays

The Committee – for all the hard work and support over the past year.