



BEARSDEN LAWN TENNIS CLUB

Founded 1887

www.bearsdenltc.org.uk

As spring approaches, it is time to look forward to the new 2021 tennis season at Bearsden Lawn Tennis Club. Of course, 2020 was an unusual year due to the pandemic, and the majority of our tennis and social activities were cancelled. But, as of mid-March 2021, the restrictions are being lifted somewhat and we hope to provide a more normal programme of events this year.

Our aim at the Club is to offer something for everyone, and to welcome all of those who are interested in playing tennis. The Club's success depends on members coming down and taking part at all levels - social or match play, senior or junior. We hope that there is something in our programme for both new and existing players.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me (details below). I will endeavour to help, or find out who can.

Please note the following dates for your diary, although you'll understand that these are provisional and indicative, and that all tennis activities may be affected by restrictions in place at the time:

American Tournaments (Social Tennis): April onwards

These are held each Saturday afternoon from 2pm. For those not familiar with this format, all players mix in with each other and play doubles with a different partner each time they go on court. Everyone is very welcome, the atmosphere is friendly, and it is an ideal way to get to know other members. The standard is very mixed; so don't be shy about coming along. There are tea and snacks for players most weekends during April, May and June.

Matches: With 4 Men's and 5 Ladies Teams, 6 Junior teams, and 5 Seniors (Veterans) teams (plus other Cup and Knockout competition teams), the Club aims to provide competitive play for a wide range of playing abilities. This year, the league matches start from Monday 26th April, and all interested in playing for a team should come down and take part in the Match Practices that will be starting soon. The names of the match secretaries are on the Teams page of the website. **Ladies practice is on Tuesday evenings from 7pm. Gents practice is on Thursday evenings from 7pm.** There is still plenty of time to join in, and the team captains are always looking for new players. **Junior match practice is on Friday evenings** and details are on the clubhouse noticeboard.

Club Championships: Ties will be played throughout the season culminating in Finals Day on **Saturday 11th September**. The entry sheets will be up in the clubhouse soon and the draw will be made in late May. It's a great event to take part in – and we're always looking for new champions to disrupt the old guard!

Tournaments: We hope to have some social tournaments later in the year. For instance, there is the J Black Mixed Doubles event in late August. These and any other special events will be advertised on the Club website (see the *Club Events* page within the *Members Area* tab) and on the noticeboard - so come down regularly to make sure you are not missing out.

Social Tennis: This is always on Saturday afternoons from 2pm, and Wednesday evenings from 7.30pm.

Day Tennis: Members come down on Tuesday and Friday mornings from 9.30am. All are welcome and this is a great way to get back into playing tennis. The first session will take place in **mid-April**. Come along regardless of the weather, as you can meet other members, play some tennis, and have a coffee to recover!

Coaching: For Adult and Junior coaching, contact our Head Coach Gordon Wilson (07841-392699). Adult group coaching takes place on Wednesday evenings 6.30pm - 7.30pm at various points throughout the year. Adult Tennis Coffee Mornings usually take place on Monday and Thursday mornings 9.30am - 11.30am. Please contact Gordon Wilson for more information.

Floodlights: Floodlights are free for members and tokens can be found in the kitchen drawer. This means the courts are available for play until 10pm each evening, all year round.

Subscriptions and Membership Secretary: To renew your membership, you should use the **online** membership renewal/application form which is on the *Membership* page of our website. Fees can be paid by **Bank Transfer** (see the membership form for details), or by cheque to our Membership Secretary: Keith Wright, 72 Douglas Park Crescent, Bearsden, Glasgow G61 3DN (0141-942-6360).

British Tennis Membership: We would like to encourage as many members as possible to sign up to the British Tennis Membership scheme. Please refer to www.lta.org.uk for more information about the benefits of joining. Please note: all members participating in teams will require BTM numbers. It's free to sign up for this, and only takes a few minutes online. Signing up also increases our Wimbledon ticket allocation from the LTA.

BLTC Website, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram: Our ClubSpark website is regularly updated and there is a lot of useful information on it. Please refer to it throughout the year, as we are trying to reducing the amount of paper we send out to members. We also have a healthy presence on social media, especially with coach Gordon Wilson maintaining the Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Website: www.bearsdenltc.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/bearsdentennis

Twitter: twitter.com/bearsdentennis

Instagram: www.instagram.com/bearsdentennis/

Balls: Used match balls (used for only one match) are available at prices from £1 per tin of three. Contact our Ball Convenor Rob Murdoch on 07403-255361.

200 Club: The Club operates a 200 Club to raise money for Club funds. Entry is £15 per year. Draws are made monthly for small prizes, and once a year for a large prize. Details are available from Jayne Gilkes and Kate Haig. Please join and support this fundraising effort - the more members that join, the bigger the gain for the Club, and the larger the prizes. A form to renew your entry (or join for the first time) is available on the website. Note: no receipts for payment of membership will be issued unless specifically requested.

Annual Awards and Prize Giving Dinner and Social Evening – The highlight of our social calendar! We plan to have the Awards Night in early **October** this year, if the pandemic guidelines allow it. More details to follow.

I hope you enjoy your tennis and make the most of season 2021!

Andy Gordon, Club Main Contact, 07968-672104, secretary@bearsdenltc.org.uk