



Welcome to Eastgate Summer Season 2024

Welcome to Eastgate if you are a new member and thank you to those re-joining for another year. Wherever you are on your tennis pathway, beginner, returner or established competitive player, I am sure you will enjoy your tennis at Eastgate.

It has been a splendid few weeks with a lot of Social Tennis and Matchplay on court.

The first few league matches have been played, a promising start to the season.

BOX LEAGUE 23/24

The Box Leagues have gone really well and a massive shout-out to Stuart Hanson who set up a program for easily working out organisers, scores & promotions. The 'mug' videos were a hoot!

Sadly, Stuart is not able to continue as member of the club and Julie Vitoria has offered to take on the role. Thank you, Julie. The Box Leagues will be paused from 1st June to 1st October whilst the summer leagues are in play. It becomes problematic to agree times and courts when holidays, fixtures and club champs are in the mix.

We hope to announce who has scored the most games over the season once May's Box has been completed. I am sure Stuart has a program for that!

The WA group can still be used to invite people to play! We will remove non-members shortly.

Men's Singles League We need someone to take this on. A very easy task as it practically runs itself.

Harry Kipling Round Robin Trophy

We were all saddened to hear of the death of Harry Kipling, a delightful long-time member of Eastgate.

Squash, Tennis and Bowls members were out in force for his funeral and wake. He will be sorely missed.

Harry kindly donated a Trophy which we were not able to play last year due to the awful weather.

The first Round Robin of the season will be dedicated to him.

Shaping Tennis at the Eastgate

Tennis should always be about enjoyment. Some love competitive tennis, some love social tennis and others just enjoy their regular 4s. Wherever you are on your Tennis Pathway we would like to be able to offer something for you.

I will be running Round Robins. For the uninitiated, they are a great way to play social tennis with a competitive element. Last year's weather was a shocker, and many events were cancelled.

Jamie Clifford has been a brilliant and enthusiastic organiser for Monday night social tennis from 6-8pm.

We felt 'beginners +' and 'rusty racquets' needed a club night of their own. Jamie has taken this on, and it is a fabulous social evening.

Jamie will also be organising a Lincolnshire Pride in Tennis event in the near future, for which help will be needed. The date is to be confirmed.

How to get involved at Eastgate.

Monday 6pm - 8pm Rusty Racquets, Returners and Beginners +, 6pm -8pm

WA group run by Jamie - contact Jamie via membership@eastgateclub.co.uk to be added to the group.

Wednesday 6pm - 8pm Club Night

A more competitive evening of club tennis. We are looking for someone to set up a WA group. Al Fielding does a great job but is always looking for support!

Tuesday and Thursday 10am – 12pm Ladies Social Tennis

Susan Mendum does a great job running this WA group. Please message me on 07917518319 to add your name to this group.

Friday 1030am -1200pm Social mixed doubles

Thank you to Richard Jenkins and Jaki Priestly for running this. No WA group, just turn up.

Match Practice sessions by invitation only on Tuesday mornings, Tuesday evenings and Sunday mornings.

We will be running an open session (date to be confirmed) for those who would like to get into competitive tennis.

Club Kit

We have recently updated our logo and we are in the process of having some shirts and hoodies made. Sam Bass will be taking orders either from the shop or via the website - details to follow.

Juniors

We are delighted, thanks to Chris Stock, that our junior teams are back in action after the Covid disruption. We have had a number of mini competitions which have been well attended.

Congratulations to the U14s for winning their division. We want to ensure that we give the Juniors an opportunity to play as much competitive Tennis as possible.

We are joining with David Lloyd and Dunholme to run inter-club matches during the summer season.

We need parents to help to run a team. We Do Tennis will be running a training session for parents who volunteer. If you think you can help, please message me 07917518319.

Eastgate Interschools invitational

George Whiley, who teaches in North Hykeham and is chair of Saxilby Tennis Club, has contacted me to jointly organise an inter-school's competition, to encourage pupils from the state system to have a go at competing. We hope to encourage young players to join the club. We will be holding the competition at **Eastgate on June 26th. 10-4pm**

PYW2W- Play your way to Wimbledon

We are hosting our club event for Juniors on Monday 20th May, 5pm onwards. Come and watch the youngsters play for a place in the regional final to be held at **Eastgate on 13th & 14th July**, details to follow.

U10 County Cup

We are hosting the U10 county cup on Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th May. Leicester, Notts, Lincs and Yorks will be playing- a chance to watch emerging talent

Recyclaball. A new Recyclaball bin has been located in the porch for BALLS ONLY! We sell the balls to a recycling company and those that are not suitable are sent for the Lincs Police dogs to use. Thank you to James Ashford who has been brilliant at doing this job.

Please take the tins home as we cannot dispose of them at the club.

Wimbledon Fortnight

We are talking to Nick/ Rick about events that could be held to promote tennis during Wimbledon fortnight. Any suggestions, please contact me on tennis_chair@eastgateclub.co.uk

A bit of a moan!

Most of us try to leave the courts with all our rubbish. I have noticed that court-side bins which are specifically for the tin tops from new balls have been used as general waste.

This is a reminder that court-side bins are for TOPS only

The black bins outside the courts are for all other rubbish. Please do use them. This keeps wasps etc down to a minimum.

Gum on Court

One of my pet hates has always been the disposal of chewing gum - or lack of it, in this case. I have noticed a lot of gum on court recently. Please do not chew gum on court. If you are chewing gum on arrival, then please dispose in a wrapper in a Black bin!

Disappearing court handles and measuring posts

At the start of last season, we made sure every court had a measuring stick and a handle that was securely screwed in. When we did a walk around last week two handles, two screws and one measuring stick were missing. If you have inadvertently taken one of these please pop it on the table in the committee room.

Now for the good news! LTA AWARDS

The Lincolnshire LTA awards recognise the contribution coaches, clubs and volunteers make to keep Tennis thriving in their clubs. There are several different categories.

Eastgate Tennis Club was a runner up in best Tennis Club in Lincolnshire.

Simon Taylor won the Lifetime Achievement award. Simon has coached Tennis for over 30 years. He still has a loyal following for Cardio Tennis and individual lessons. Many remember Simon coaching them as children! A well-deserved award for a coach who continues to inspire many.

I was bowled over to receive the Lincolnshire Tennis Volunteer of the Year Award as I believe it is very much a Team effort. As a result of this I was put forward for the regional award which I have also won! For this I have been invited to Edgbaston on June 17th to receive my award and enjoy a day's tennis and am heading for Wimbledon on July 6th for the former.

Eastgate needs you to volunteer and do JUST ONE THING!

If every member supported or helped to organise 'Just One Thing' we would definitely be Club of the Year!

We need more committee members to support the running of the club. We meet about six times a year.

The current committee members are

Me: Chair

Brian Main: Vice Chair and Safeguarding Lead and external competition co-ordinator

Jane Good: Ladies Events

Liz Cooper: Talent spotting and developing our coaching offer.

Fran Keane: Secretary, Match secretary and Club Champs organiser.

We need a representative for the Juniors. Could you join us?

What talent or skill do you have that we might be able to harness as part of the tennis section?

Can you help with Our Strategic Plan ? Many hands make light work!

Can you help run a social tennis session?

We want to encourage wider access to tennis through 'Tennis for all'.

Do you know any primary schools interested in tennis coaching for their children?

Training days and £250 kit available. Contact nigel@wedotennis for more information.

Can you help promote Walking Tennis or Pickle Ball?

Do you know anyone who could support running a tennis session for those who need to move more, meet people and socialise? We are exploring links with Active Lincolnshire. Can you help?

Do you know anyone who would sponsor a team? Or our Tennis Balls for the season?

All our court-side boards are taken but we can talk about other opportunities.

Family Fun Fridays

Courts are always at a premium in the evenings, particularly when matches are being played, but

Friday and Saturday evenings, and often Sunday afternoons, are not fully utilised.

I would like to run a regular Fun Friday for Parents and children with a BBQ or Pizza to follow.

Simon Taylor will start us off with a Fun Friday cardio session for parents and children

Thank Goodness it's Friday

Regular sessions for adults to play social tennis after work on a Friday and stay for a cocktail and BBQ or Pizza to alternate with the Family Fun Fridays. Can you help??

WE DO TENNIS

Please do check out our website for information on the Juniors Coaching programme.

YOUTH START 3rd & 8th June, info at the club and on the website.

FAMILY CUP WEEK W/c 20th May

I expect to see lots of parents on court with their children channelling their inner Federer or Williams!

Sign up for our Holiday Camps via the website, two days over May half term Wed 29th and 30th May.

Three full weeks in the summer holidays, details on the website shortly.

I look forward to seeing you on court or in Bar 89 enjoying your tennis at the Eastgate club.

Hoping for the best season of Tennis.

Jenny Wheeldon, Chair.