

## Garden Village Tennis coaching report 2023-24

We had 82 players in the club's main summer programme.

17 adults and 65 juniors.

20 of the juniors were new starters through the LTA youth start programme.

Adult numbers remained healthy in 2023 however junior numbers dropped for the first time post-covid. This may partly be due to competition in the area increasing.

The winter season saw numbers drop off significantly in both adults and juniors, we had significant disruption with the wet weather (it's been the wettest winter for decades). However, we have managed to maintain 3 kid's groups on a Sunday with 24 children. The adult session on a Saturday ran sporadically as a pay and play session and has now ended in anticipation for more interest when we start Thursday evenings in the Spring.

The lower numbers have given Anthony more opportunities to lead groups, helping to increase his income and incentivise him to continue to his coaching commitments. This has allowed me to focus on meeting the demand for small group and one to one work to help players with potential on the performance pathway, (we currently have 2 Northumberland Academy players training at the club).

Looking forward, I will continue committing to deliver a profitable programme at GGV. However, my availability may be limited as I am also heavily invested in Pride in Tennis, the demands of which are increasing year on year. I am also involved in the organising and delivery of parks tennis across the 7 Newcastle Parks that have been renovated this winter. I am hoping that by generating interest in Gosforth Park I can also signpost people towards GGV ahead of other Gosforth Clubs, helping to reinvigorate numbers.

I'd like to thank the committee, club members, and particularly Anthony and Bob for their efforts in 2023.

Ian Pearson