

HADDINGTON TENNIS CLUB

NEWSLETTER

A note from our chairman



After two years of disruption due to the coronavirus pandemic, Haddington Tennis Club has returned to near-normality with a full programme of events, greatly enhanced by the excellent weather we've had this summer. The season started off in May with a members'

BBQ and doubles tournament, a very successful Open Day in June, and recently our first HTC Championships for 35 years. The latter had six keenly contested events: Men's Singles, Ladies' Singles, Men's Doubles, Ladies' Doubles, Boys' Singles and Girls' Singles. I particularly enjoyed watching the latter two events - excellent tennis played in a good spirit.

As members will know, HTC uses the Neilson Park Pavilion as its "home" (shared with the cricket club). However, it is in a poor state of repair, limiting our use of the building to the toilet facilities and storing equipment.

We have been in discussion with East Lothian Council (who own it) to investigate how it might be improved (other than just a lick of paint!). How this will evolve remains to be seen, and the results will not be immediate, but we hope to create much more of a social base for the club.

Lastly, I would be very keen to hear from any member interested in joining our committee. I expect some positions to become vacant at our AGM in February, so ideally we should be thinking about this now. Any healthy club needs an enthusiastic committee behind the scenes and is key to the continued existence of our club. If you are interested or would like to know a bit more about it, please contact me on 07792 266056 or ewenmacpherson885@gmail.com – or speak to me at the tennis courts!

Ewen Macpherson
Chairman

Coaching Update Autumn 2022



Jonathan with our Play Your Way to Wimbledon winners Annabel Galloway and Matthew Cecil

As we head towards the end of 2022 I am delighted to reflect on another very successful year for Baseline Tennis at Haddington Tennis Club with more people playing more often.

A few highlights of the year include:

- another successful year of Play Your Way to Wimbledon with two new players heading across to Fife to compete in the regional finals
- a first team competition against North Berwick in early April

- three very full camps during the Easter and summer holidays
- the return of the HTC club champs with both a Boys and Girls Under 16 Champion for the first time since the late 80s'
- busy adult + junior term time programmes
- continued expansion of the links we have with all the local schools

With a couple months left until the end of the year we still have two more competitions to go this year including our Fancy Dress Christmas event, which was a great success last year. If you'd like to know more about these events, I'd love to hear from you.

A huge thank you to all the players, parents and committee members who have made this another fun and successful year for Baseline Tennis. I can't wait to see what the next year brings for us.

Jonathan Simpson
HTC Head Coach

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The LTA, HTC and Safeguarding at our club



The LTA strives to ensure that all children, young people and adults at risk are safeguarded from abuse and have an enjoyable tennis experience. Here at HTC we too are committed to making sure this happens.

Many of you will have heard about some of Safeguarding scandals that have come to light in a variety of sports, with football and gymnastics being the latest. Following a serious club incident in England in 2017/18, the LTA determined that it would set the gold standard for Welfare in sport, and has been developing a progressive approach to act through clubs at all levels to establish welfare in the forefront of the minds of all participants.

Last month on 1 October, I attended the LTA Welfare and Safeguarding conference. The theme was the ongoing development of the LTA's Welfare programme. I, and the other HTC committee members, are fully supportive of this and are proceeding to enhance HTC's promotion of welfare for all players, in line with LTA guidance. This year we have been adopting policies on a variety of matters, which

have been circulated in emails, welcome packs etc. - all very good, but dry administrative stuff.

We are now progressing to ensure there is a strong awareness of welfare across all our club's activities, club sessions, coaching, family sessions, and competitions. We aim to do this through various communications, both formal and informal, to ensure everyone knows who the appropriate contacts are in the club for any concerns and the process that would follow on from this.

Finally, although we are a club with limited facilities and activities, this does not preclude the possibility of welfare or safeguarding issues. The committee seeks to prevent any such arising and I think it's worth reminding everyone who plays at the club that safeguarding is not just a committee responsibility – it's everyone's responsibility. So remember - say something if you see something.

I wish you all enjoyable tennis.

Brian East
(Welfare Officer and Treasurer)

htctreasurer@aol.com 01620 824760

Read more:

[Safeguarding within Haddington Tennis Club](#)

Picture Gallery



Start of the Season May 2022



Open Day June 2022



HTC Championships October 2022

Our first championship for 35 years was a great success. Colin Eliot, a member for over 50 years presented the prizes to the winners.



Winners left to right: Shona, Fiona, Beatrice, Jack, Neal, Kenny, Donald.



Colin Eliot presenting the girls' singles prize to Beatrice Lusty

This year's winners

Ladies' Singles: Shona Bowen

Men's Singles: Donald McAllister (also our last singles champion 35 years ago!)

Ladies' Doubles: Shona Bowen and Fiona Scott

Men's Doubles: Jack Booker and Kenny McKay

Girls' Singles: Beatrice Lusty

Boys' Singles: Neal Presley

Members fundraising efforts

Challenging yourself to play 38 tennis matches over four days at 38 different clubs is no mean feat. But that's what HTC member Stuart Falconer did – starting in East Lothian on 30 June and finishing 429 miles later in Orkney. He said that what he did in memory of his late brother Richard, who died earlier this year from Motor Neurone Disease (MND), was 'a wonderful experience'. Stuart raised £10,515 for the MND charity thanks to 190 generous donors and lots of lovely people and thanks everyone who supported him.

When our HTC membership secretary, Bruce Clark, was diagnosed earlier this year with prostate cancer, his wife Irene decided to 'get into gear' and raise some money for Cancer Research. Along with three tennis buddies - Annie Marie Grufferty, Yvette Smalridge and Lynne Swann - she undertook at 15 mile bicycle ride and raised £1,325.00 for this worthy cause.



Stuart with his family and Jayanth Chandran who kicked off the fundraising effort at HTC



Irene and Bruce handing over the cheque to representatives from Edinburgh's Western General Hospital



Family tennis on a Sunday

Our Family Tennis sessions, which have been taking place every Sunday morning from 10am - 12pm, have now stopped for winter and will recommence in the spring.

Many thanks to all of our families - both from the membership and new families - who have come along to join in. It's certainly been fun and plenty of exercise for all ages. We've created new games - 'First to 67 and a half' and 'Zombie Mummies' (actual real life Mums were required - quite easy wins for our opponents when mums are not allowed to move).

We look forward to seeing you all in the new season and looking forward to arranging a Families' and Parents social. If you would like to be added to the Families WhatsApp group please email htcmembership@btinternet.com with your details.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding – say something if you see something.

Who to contact at HTC If you have any concerns about the welfare of a child or adult at risk, or have a disclosure of abuse or neglect.

HTC Welfare Officer
Brian East
01620 824760

Deputy Welfare Officer
Dave Tomlinson
07910 004373

Easyfunding

Please remember that by ordering goods online via our HTC easyfundraising page, you'll be helping to raise funds for our programme of coaching for all local schoolchildren, with particular emphasis on children who are dis-advantaged. To-date, 27 members have helped to raise a potential £486.76. Thank you for your support.

Floodlight tokens

The nights have drawn in, so if you need floodlight tokens they are available for purchase from Bruce Clark or Dave Tomlinson. Cost: £1/hour.

Haddington Tennis Club tennis gear

Leisure Time Sports in Market Street, Haddington have added club hats and visors to the t-shirt range. Visit their site to see what's on offer, including some other special deals.

<https://leisuretimesports.co.uk/collections/haddington-tennis-club>



HTC Facebook

Remember to share your tennis stories and pictures on [our facebook page](#)



HTC WhatsApp group

Keep in touch with what's going on. If you'd like to join the group, send your details to htcmembership@btinternet.com

Useful links:

www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/HaddingtonTennisClub
www.facebook.com/HaddingtonTennisClub

If you have any suggestions regarding what you'd like to hear about in our newsletters, drop a note to htcmembership@btinternet.com.
