
HADDINGTON TENNIS CLUB

2022 Annual General Meeting - Chairman's Report

While the last year has generally been an extremely difficult year for everyone, at least our local tennis courts remained open throughout 2021, with no restrictions on doubles play or numbers on the courts. In fact, tennis at the club has flourished, with record membership (now well over 300). A very welcome feature of this has been the increase in junior membership and family membership, resulting (at least in part) from Jonathan Simpson's very popular coaching programme. Jonathan's enthusiasm and hard work has been outstanding, and has been key to the current health of the club.

2021 has seen the introduction of Sunday Family Sessions. These are regular but informal sessions every Sunday morning, when the courts are reserved for families (children of all ages). Many thanks to Kirsten McGregor, Jon McKenzie and other parents for initiating this.

Another new initiative has been the introduction of singles Box Leagues, initially organised by Alan Caldwell, but now taken over by Andrew Hall. He is moving the administration of these to the Tennis Scotland Box League Result Manager software in February, which should make it easier for players to enter their results themselves. The 3rd round of Box Leagues is just commencing.

After no external competitions in 2020 (for obvious reasons), 2021 saw a return to play outside our local environment. 16 juniors took part in the Road to Wimbledon Championship in June, with Kyla Hynd and Angus Bailey progressing to the Nationals in Edinburgh. We also had a team took part in an East Lothian Adults Mixed League, which performed extremely well; many thanks to Mhairi Tufail for organising the team.

After a gap in 2020, HTC held an Open Day on 26th June. The weather was very poor in the morning, but it cleared at lunchtime and allowed everyone to have a very enjoyable afternoon. Attendance was good, and we were very pleased to see so many children having a go on the courts, a number for the first time. Many thanks to all those club members who turned out to help on the day.

The club is currently liaising with Leisure Time to get Club T-shirts printed for sale to members. Thanks to Gwen Andrew and Jane Scott for coming up with the prototype designs.

The pandemic severely limited any club social events in 2021, although we did manage to have a Christmas Dinner – thanks to Gwen for organizing this. We hope to do more in 2022.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the committee for their hard work throughout the year.

Ewen Macpherson