



YOUR CLUB NEWSLETTER 2023

Chairman's Welcome

Welcome to the 2023 tennis season and our invitation to renew your annual membership of Hill & Valley LTC. Thank you very much for your support over the last year and I am sure you'll agree it has been a delight to return to a normal season of regular club tennis, coaching and competitions, following the disruption of 2020 and 2021. We plan to continue with a full programme of activities in 2023.

As elected at the AGM in November, I welcome Justine Barnes to the committee as Club Secretary; we are delighted she has joined us and she will make a valuable contribution to many aspects of the club. Leila Lodwick steps down as Treasurer because of increasing family and work commitments and we thank her for much good sense and the steady hand she has provided over the club finances during the last difficult three years. Zarah Barter has kindly agreed to take on the Treasurer's role so has stepped down as Club Secretary.

We hope you'll see from this newsletter that there's a wide range of tennis activities on offer and something to suit all abilities, age groups and tennis preferences. Whilst there are several opportunities for competitive tennis in the Gloucestershire county leagues, winter mixed doubles and of course our own club ladder and tournaments, the committee also prioritise supporting a strong social element where everyone has an enjoyable inclusive experience when you come to your club. We wish to create an environment where all ages and abilities can meet to make new friendships and find players of a similar standard.

May I especially thank the members of the committee, Zarah Barter, Caroline Baker, and Graham Stock who work hard to ensure the club continues to flourish and to the many volunteers who so cheerfully help run the clubs events and activities. A further thanks must go to our coaches Hilary Swan, David Ayala and Tom Wyman – for their patience and endless encouragement – their work is never done!

Court Maintenance 2023 – important please read

No major work is planned for 2023, following the last two years of work on new lights and renewing the court paint surface. I hope you agree our courts look very smart, something we are often complimented on by visiting match teams.

Given the expense of repainting it is important that we all do our best to ensure the quality of the surface is maintained for as long as possible to extend the period before further hefty expense is incurred! **Do take care to avoid bringing mud onto the courts** – during the winter especially please do not wear your tennis shoes while crossing the playing field. Also use the blower stored in the clubhouse to push leaves and other debris off the playing surface before starting as, over time, the grinding of organic material into the tarmac will encourage moss encroachment and reduce water drainage off the surface. Thank you in advance for your help.

Membership Subscription 2023

I am glad to say that your club remains in a sound financial position despite the difficulties of the last three years. Membership numbers have increased slightly and you'll remember we made a small increase to subscriptions in 2022, having held them with no change for the two years prior to that. The committee is mindful of the significant increase in basic costs of equipment, electricity, water and maintenance that we will incur both now and in the following few years given the rate of inflation in the economy. It is likely that the cost of re-surfacing (likely due in 2030) will be much larger than previously. At the AGM we proposed a 6% increase across all membership categories which I hope you will find acceptable and a reasonable compromise between the full rate of inflation (in excess of 10%) and our desire to retain our position providing excellent value for a relatively low subscription.

Allison Stock Legacy

We are very grateful to Allison for her generosity in supporting the club with her legacy which has funded the conversion of our floodlights to LED, and made a contribution to the court repainting. As you know Graham Stock continues her work as a long serving stalwart of the club committee and helps in so many aspects of club life and the fabric of our facilities. There remains part of the legacy to support further projects; we have debated the installation of a 'hitting/practice wall' but significant problems with siting, maintenance and intrusion on the court areas have discouraged us. A plan to provide additional spectator seating outside the court fencing, to the right of the entrance steps is a more favoured suggestion and we will work on finer details over the next few months.

Housing Development adjacent to courts

Permission has been granted by CDC for two houses on the land between the courts and the Village Hall. Over several stages of the process many objections were submitted by Chedworth residents and club members and I'd like to thank all those who contributed. We fear the long term consequences of having private properties so close to our courts will bring problems in the future; a fear we share with the Village Hall committee. Charles Hutton Potts of the Village Hall, Martin and Jan Harrison of the Chedworth Society and the Chedworth Parish Council all made significant contributions to the effort to oppose the development which was unsuccessful; but we must remain hopeful that the eventual impact on the club will be minimal.

Do please get in touch for any queries or suggestions, your feedback and comments are appreciated and valued.

We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter and wish you a most successful and enjoyable tennis season – look forward to seeing you on the courts!

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Below is a list of the committee members for 2023, there is a full contact list on the [website](#)

Please feel free to contact any of us if you have any queries.

Robert Baker	Chair	robert.baker@agrii.co.uk
Zarah Barter	Treasurer	treasurer.hillandvalleyltd@gmail.com
Justine Barnes	Secretary	secretary.hillandvalleyltd@gmail.com
Caroline Baker	Membership & Coaching Secretary & Web admin	carolinebaker75@gmail.com
Graham Stock	Facilities, Welfare Officer	grahamstock@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Renewal Subscriptions for 2023 are due by 1st March.

Family (inc children in full time education up to the age of 23 on 1 st Jan)	£165
Joint	£148
Individual	£ 75
Student (18-23yrs on 1 st Jan in full time education)	£ 36
Junior Youth (10-17yrs before 1 st Jan)	£ 29
Junior (Under 10yrs before 1 st Jan)	£ 18

You will soon receive an email with an invitation and link to rejoin. It is cheaper for the club if you use bank payment by direct debit through GoCardless but there is the option for credit card payment (not American Express) as well. The gate code will be changed on March 1st and the new gate code will be sent to you your confirmation email when you have renewed.

GUEST FEES

You are very welcome to invite friends to play up to three times a year, however out of respect for the fully paid up membership there is a charge of £5 per adult over 18 and £2.50 for children under 18. Payment can be made by clicking [HERE](#)

Please notify us that you would like to play with a guest/s by sending an email to hillandvalleyltd@gmail.com

IF YOU HAVE OUTSTANDING GUEST FEES FROM LAST YEAR PLEASE COULD YOU ARRANGE PAYMENT ASAP

COURTS

The code to the gate keypad is changed every year on 1st March and the new code is provided when members have renewed their membership. Courts may be booked 7 days ahead using the booking page on the website or via the Booker App. Please make sure you delete your booking if you do not require the court. Matches are generally played in the evenings and they take priority over other bookings. If you have any problems with booking either on the website or App please get in touch with Caroline Baker. A key for the clubhouse is also available from Caroline 07733 322176. carolinebaker75@gmail.com A deposit of £6 per key is required.

Please lower the nets after playing and raise them off the ground using the bungie cords. To prevent damage to the surface, sports shoes with non-marking soles should be worn and please avoid bringing mud onto the courts.

CLUB EVENTS

Please make a note in your diaries of our events coming up they are open to All, for more info and to book please click [HERE](#)

Open Morning with Coffee & Croissants, Saturday, March 11th

To mark the start of this year's season and to welcome new members we have a morning of social tennis with coffee and croissants on Saturday March 11th from 10am-12noon. This year it is also open to non members so please do invite your friends and anyone you think would be interested in joining the club. Please book in so we can cater for everyone [HERE](#)

Dunlop Demo Day, Saturday, April 15th

A FREE doubles tactics session from 10.30-12 followed by a social tournament from 12.30-2 with Sam Bass Qualified LTA Level 4 Coach. Refreshments and sandwiches provided. Experience the complete Dunlop Racket Range including the NEW FX Series currently used by Jack Draper. There will be an opportunity to purchase Dunlop Rackets, Balls, K-Swiss Tennis Trainers & Apparel at discounted rates.

Please book in [HERE](#)

Club Open Day, Sunday, May 14th

We are holding an Open Day as part of the LTA Big Tennis weekend on Sunday, May 14th. There will be lots of activities for all, more details to follow. We will be looking for members to get involved and volunteering to help.

Coln Valley Mixed Doubles Open Tournament, Saturday, June 10th

This all day event is our main fundraiser for the club and will be held on Saturday, June 10th. It is a great day of social and fun tennis, played on delightful private courts kindly loaned for the day by residents in surrounding villages. The early rounds are

played to a sliding handicap so that you can enjoy the tennis whatever your standard. We hope that lots of members will take part and we'd love you to help in anyway you can, please liaise with Robert or Caroline Baker.

John Robson Rose Bowl, Saturday, July 1st

A fun, friendly club event playing American Doubles on Saturday, 1st July from 12-6pm with lunch and refreshments. Please enter as an individual as you will be given a partner on the day.

Allison Stock Day, Saturday, September 23rd

Another fun friendly event which has a different format each year on Saturday, September 23rd, full details to follow.

CLUB SESSIONS

We have club sessions on every week and they are open to all, we appreciate all the members who kindly volunteer their time to run these.

Monday Men's Night

Drop in session starting at 6.00 pm; details from John Boughey jaboughey@gmail.com
07545 802002

Pop Up & Play on Monday Mornings

All welcome for tennis at 10-11.30am followed by coffee in the Pop Up Café in the village hall, please email Caroline Baker if you would like to play so you can be added to the email list. social.hillandvalleyltd@gmail.com

Thursday Evening Ladies Social

5-6.30pm please email Dee Greatorex deegreatorex@gmail.com if you would like to play so you can be added to the email list.

Saturday Mixed Doubles

4-6pm all welcome, please email social.hillandvalleyltd@gmail.com if you would like to play so you can be added to the email list.

Ladder

The doubles ladder is popular and provides an opportunity for some friendly competitive tennis and is a good way to meet other members. The Summer ladder will begin on March 1st, if you would like to take part please get in touch with Yvonne Winward hvladder@gmail.com so she can add you to the list. It is open to ALL so please do sign up, if you don't have a partner we can find one for you.

LEAGUE TENNIS

There are plenty of opportunities to play competitive tennis, we enter several leagues that run throughout the year, please get in touch with the relevant team captains for more info and to register your interest.

Glos Dunlop Summer League

The Summer league runs from April to the end of August. Matches are played in the evenings usually starting at 6.30pm, HOME matches are generally Ladies' on Tuesdays, Men's on Thursdays. AWAY matches are dependent on the opposition.

Ladies' Team

We will be entering an A and B team this year; if you have not already replied to Hilary and Linda with your availability please make contact by February 14th 01242 890213 or 07900 495059 h.swan213@btinternet.com

Men's Team

The men's team continues this year, if you are interested in playing please contact Robert Baker by February 14th 07831 430172 robert.baker@agrii.co.uk

Ladies Over 60s Winter League

We have entered the Over 60s League for 4 Winter seasons now and have managed to climb our way up to Division 1 having had a lot of fun on the way. 5 out of 8 matches have been played with 2 wins and 3 losses, it is certainly stiffer competition this year! We are always looking for new players who have reached this ripe age (you never know we may even make 2 teams). Matches are generally played in the mornings, mid week from October to March. If you are interested in playing in this for next season, please contact our Captain, Helen Owen so she can add you to the list.

theowens.hatherop@gmail.com

Stroud Sunday Mixed Winter League

This is a friendly relaxed league running on Sunday mornings from October to end of March. Due to snow, ice and frost, we have only played 4 out of 8 matches so far, with one win, one draw and two losses. This is a total of 12 points from a possible 32 points so far. If you aren't already involved and would like to know more please do get in touch with our Captain, Hisae Hollingsworth hisaeh@yahoo.co.uk 07989487602

COACHING

The club is very fortunate in the quality of coaching that we can offer for our members David Ayala runs the junior after school coaching programme and holiday camps and he has introduced tiny tot tennis for the Pre-School. All sessions can all be booked via the club website. Tom Wyman is our Level 3 visiting coach who provides monthly clinics for Adults and Juniors. Hilary Swan runs adult training sessions and matchplay

drills for team practice. Caroline Baker co-ordinates the coaching programme and provides the admin support.

Allison Stock Coaching Fund

The Allison Stock Coaching Fund was set up in 2019 following a donation to the club in memory of Allison Stock. The club contributes to the fund each year and the money raised is used to subsidise coaching in the community, especially for our local school children which we hope will inspire younger generations to get involved in tennis and our club. If you would like to make a donation please get in touch with the Treasurer, Zarah Barter treasurer.hillandvalleyltd@gmail.com

DAVID AYALA ADULT AND JUNIOR CLUB COACH

After School Junior Coaching - open to non members

Fun and relaxed group sessions aimed at introducing tennis for children running on Wednesdays during term time. Sessions are geared to developing hand eye coordination skills, stroke technique leading to match play.

3.15-4pm	BLUE – Reception and year 1
4-5pm	RED – school year 2 & 3
5-6pm	ORANGE – school year 4 & 5
6-7pm	GREEN – school year 6 & 7
7-8pm	YELLOW - Teens Yr 7 and above

Children's Half Term and Holiday Camps will run throughout the year, please see website for the latest dates.

One to One Coaching David offers sessions for all levels including beginners for both juniors and adults. Please book directly with him on 07898 225148.

TOM WYMAN MONTHLY SATURDAY SESSIONS

Tom our visiting LTA Level 3 coach provides coaching and team training for all levels.

Adults Intermediate/Advanced

Drills to develop stroke technique, improved footwork, tactical play and match play. These sessions will certainly up your game. Aimed for the confident team player.

Adults Improvers/Intermediate

Designed for adults who have played tennis before and have a level of competency across their game but are looking to raise their level, improve skills, refine their technique, become more tactical and develop their match play strategies.

Beginner/Rusty Returner

For those who have played little tennis or are returning to tennis and are keen to learn and develop their technical and tactical ability through drills and structured practices. The aim of the sessions is to learn new techniques, develop skills and confidence, meet new players, improve fitness and have fun!

ADULT TRAINING SESSIONS WITH HILARY SWAN

01242 890213 / 07900 495059 h.swan213@btinternet.com

Tuesdays: 9.30am – 11.00am

Aimed at the beginner and 'rusty returners'. Sessions focus on individual skills leading towards singles and doubles game play. Typical session: warm up, footwork and ball skills, rally drills, modified game activities, full game.

Fridays: 9.30am – 11.00am

Aimed at the more advanced squad team players. Sessions focus on tactical and technical training for doubles play. Typical session: warm up/agility, ball/racket skills, rallying development and consistency, fun game/competition, full game.

Sessions are open to all fully paid up members of Hill & Valley LTC. Both groups normally operate on a Course Basis, ie 6-10 weeks

Cost: Either Pay+Play @ £10.00 per 1.5 hr session or

Pre-payment @ £85.00 for a 10 week course

If interested in joining either of the groups, please email Hilary to confirm your place. Any queries please do not hesitate to get in touch. Please see the website for course dates.

WIMBLEDON TICKETS

The Wimbledon Ballot is now centrally administered by the LTA. All Advantage members will be entered into the ballot provided you have opted in and are registered to a club. The deadline for this is the end of January so has passed for this year. For more info click [HERE](#)

CLUB POLICIES

The LTA emphasises that it is the responsibility of ALL MEMBERS to be familiar with and employ the policies of their club so it is important that you please take time to familiarise yourself with our Data and Safeguarding policies.

The LTA wants tennis in Britain to be at the forefront of safeguarding in sport and LTA Registered Venues with accredited coaches play a vital role in achieving this. In partnership with Sport England they are to pilot a cutting edge safeguarding awareness campaign aimed at clubs, coaches, parents and players. As an LTA Registered Venue, Hill & Valley LTC has a shared responsibility with everyone else involved in tennis to promote the welfare of all children and young people.

Campaign cards will be issued to clubs that will provide access to real life dramatised safeguarding cases and top tips videos for coaches and parents, including guidance on use of social media, photography and filming. The website

<https://www.safetoplaytennis.co.uk> has lots of additional information and guidance.

Hill & Valley LTC has comprehensive policies in place to protect everyone involved with the club. Please see the links below, full details of our policies are also available in the clubhouse and on the [Website](#)

[GDPR Data Policy Statement](#)

[Safeguarding Policy Statement](#)

[British Tennis Diversity and Inclusion Policy](#)

[Working with Children Code of Practice; Photography and Recording Policy; Sunscreen Policy](#)

Your Rights You have the right to find out what personal information the Club holds about you and to seek to amend it and/or have it deleted. If you have any queries about this privacy policy, how we process your personal data, if you wish to exercise any of your legal rights or have queries about any of our policies please contact our Secretary, Justine Barnes secretary.hillandvalleylta@gmail.com.

WAYS TO KEEP UPDATED

Please check the home page of the website for the latest news

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/HillandValleyTC>

You can also connect with us on social media.



With best wishes for the season ahead!

Hill & Valley LTC Committee

Robert, Zarah, Justine, Graham, Hilary, Caroline

hillandvalleylta@gmail.com

February 2023

KEY DATES TO NOTE

- March 1st** Membership renewal
- March 1st** New Ladder starts
- March 11th** Social open morning with tennis, coffee & croissants
- April 15th** Dunlop Open day
- May 14th** Open Day LTA Big Tennis Weekend
- June 10th** Coln Valley Tournament
- July 1st** John Robson Rose Bowl American Mixed Doubles Tournament
- Sept 23rd** Allison Stock Day