



Facility improvements and youth coaching funds

We've won funds for a new shelter by the pavilion and a youth coaching programme. An extended parking plan is also now being progressed as part of a Town Council led planning application. Fingers crossed!

If you wish to get in touch with the committee please use the following email. admin@marlboroughtennis.co.uk

In this issue... Dates for your diary, Club update and Getting ready to open up on March 29th

Opening 29 March - we're back on court



Subject to a government review on the 22nd March and further LTA guidance, we'll be open for tennis on the 29th! Please read the [latest grid](#) and watch out for updates at the end of the month. We'd like to stress to everyone that we need to keep 2m distance

especially at the gates, sanitise hands when coming in and off courts, and don't play if you have symptoms or your NHS App has required you to self-isolate. COVID grid summaries, 2m signs and notices will be updated on site so play and stay safe. Sign up for your [new membership here!](#)

What's on in April

Here are the key activities on offer in March and April:

- **Outdoor tennis opens, Monday 29th March** We open for play and coaching resumes.
- **Social Tennis, Sunday 4th April, 10-12 am.** Open to all members with rotational play in place. Each Sunday will follow a similar format.
- **Social Tennis, Wednesday 7th April, 6-8pm.** This will now include rusty racquets players for the early spring and summer period. Beginners and rusty racquet players will have the opportunity to play separately.

Due to the busy summer league programme a combined session will take place every Wednesday for the remainder of the summer.

- **Fizz Friday, Friday 9th and 23rd April, 6-7pm.** A Girls Night Out, please contact [Fiona Wycherley](#) (07747 103549) or [Jo Payne](#) (07766 721799) if you would like to be added to the ladies social WhatsApp list. An invitation to join will be sent Sunday evening prior, first come, first served. Current LTA guidelines will allow doubles play, but prevent socialising afterwards.
- **'Opening' Day Saturday 10th April.** The new season is on, so come out and let's have some really busy courts with as many people playing as possible.
- **Bring a Friend Night, Friday 16th April, 6-7pm.** Have any friends who would be interested in tennis? Bring them to this short fun night and [sign up here](#). Spaces are limited to so please sign up early. Any questions please call Jo Payne (07766 721799)
- **I'm a tennis player 'Get me out of here' tournament, Saturday 17 April 2-430pm.** Forget celebrities, and lockdown, outdoor tennis is back! Get out and start smashing tennis balls at our first reopening social tournament. This will follow our usual American format so sign up [here](#). There's no charge for this – it's great to see you out playing again
- **Distanced work party, Saturday 24th April, 10-12am.** Come along and help clean up the grounds and

gardens. Please bring some gardening tools and hope to see you there.

- **Area Board youth funded programme starts, Saturday 24th April.** We've won a £2700 bid to help Marlborough youth (aged 13-18) get active through a 18 week tennis programme aimed at helping teenagers who need a little leg up in Marlborough enjoy tennis and the club. Contact Joe Revelle or [Andrew Payne](#) if you'd like to help as a volunteer or know more.
- **Summer league starts, Monday 26th April.** We'll be entering teams in the mens, ladies and mixed categories. Please see the details below.
- **New Members Night, Friday 30 April, 6-7pm.** This will be a short format welcome evening for new members to play tennis, mix and meet others and learn about what's on offer at Marlborough Tennis. Please sign up [here](#). Contact [Peter May](#) if you can help out on the evening.

Summer League - players wanted!

Penny Smith and Neil Emery will be managing our summer league entries and we would like to start identifying players now.

We await final confirmation from the Swindon and District League but the current plan is as follows:-

- Mens: Mondays (3 teams of two pairs)
- Ladies: Tuesdays (3 teams of two pairs)
- Mixed: Thursdays (3 teams of two pairs)

If you are interested in selection for league play please contact [Penny Smith](#) and come down to the practices starting as from 12th April from 7-9 pm and then weekly.

For home games, members will need to be at the club by 6.20pm. For away games, this may be a 5.45 departure or players will meet at the away teams venue. Regular £3 match fees apply for home games and away games which will cover the cost of match balls and refreshments.

News update

- **LTA #Weather the Court campaign – we're winners!** We are just one of seven clubs to be awarded 360 Slazenger tennis balls. Thanks to everyone who took part with photos and social media posts. These balls will be used for competitive play, social and prizes.

- **New shelter coming soon.** Marlborough Town Council have awarded us £10k to install a new shelter with windproof sides, electricity, and benches in the near future.
- **Garden plan – planters wanted!** [Karen Maskell](#) has designed a planting plan for the banks between courts-12 and courts 3-4 and in front of the pavilion. If you can grow some seeds on then please get in touch with Karen.



2021 committee - still time to volunteer

As we enter a new season we will have a new structure and refreshed committee. Please see [this link](#). A huge thank you to Barbara Jones for her amazing contribution which was recognised by a Lifetime award from the LTA. Roger Wheeler will continue to provide vital support as Treasurer. Gary Bond has now kindly volunteered to lead on maintenance with a handover from Gareth by September. Gary will start exploring options for a new pavilion. We still need a Club Secretary so please step up if you are interested and get in touch with [Andrew Payne](#)

Time to limber up and get fit for April

Start working on your fitness and get ready to hit the courts. The LTA has a few useful exercises to help you stretch and get ready for stretching at home, and other fitness exercises.

