

NORTHUMBERLAND
LAWN
TENNIS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT

2019

NORTHUMBERLAND LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2019

2019 was a year of consolidation in the Association's working relationships with the LTA under the governing body's Participation and Performance Strategies launched in 2018.

On the Participation front, members of Council worked closely with colleagues in the LTA North Region through our Tennis Participation Committee to support clubs across the County and in November 2019 delivered two Club Forums which were well attended by our registered venues.

Safeguarding was a major theme of the year, culminating in a Safeguarding Forum held in September 2019 attended by Club Safeguarding Officers, Club Committee members and Coaches at which a keynote address was delivered by an external speaker and an update on safeguarding issues was given by the Safeguarding Manager of the LTA North Region. During the year, the LTA commenced a programme of safeguarding inspection visits to all registered venues across the UK, spread over a three - year period. A third of our clubs were visited by the LTA North Region's Safeguarding Manager and I am pleased to report that all of our clubs visited so far were considered to be compliant with the LTA's safeguarding standards.

The year also saw the development and launch of a new County website which can be found at clubspark.lta.org.uk/Northumberland. The previous website, which had been maintained by the LTA, had become significantly out of date and was no longer being supported by the LTA. We are particularly grateful to David Simpson, a member of Council, who has developed the new website based on the Clubspark platform and I would encourage clubs to use the website to promote their events, activities and news stories by forwarding information to communications@northumberlandtennis.org.uk

The Northumberland Tennis Academy continued to provide a comprehensive coaching programme for our most promising performance players and delivered a County Training programme in line with agreements reached with the LTA in 2018. The Annual Reports contain a more detailed report from Chris Sanderson on our performance players and on the Academy's activities during the year.

Our main tournaments – Sport Newcastle/ South Northumberland, Northumberland Open and County Closed – were again held during the summer months with a particularly strong entry for the Northumberland Open. My thanks to the Tournament Committees, Referees and officials who supported these events and to Sarah Oswald who delivered a very successful Northumberland Open in early August. The Open also hosted the 2019 Northumberland Tennis Awards and details of all the Award winners are listed later in the Annual Reports.

The Annual Reports detail results from our junior, senior and veterans county teams during the year. I would particularly single out the Ladies Over 70s who crowned a very successful year by becoming national champions, and our Ladies and Mens senior teams who both gained promotion at Winter County Cup, with the Ladies returning to Group 1 for 2020.

The Northumberland & Durham Inter Club League continued to provide competitive opportunities for junior, adult and veterans teams from clubs based in the two counties, and our own Competitions Committee met early in the season to look at developing more competition within the County.

The Northumberland Club had a successful year and I am pleased to report that a new and updated Operating Agreement was signed on behalf of the Association and the Club in February 2019 which sets out the roles and responsibilities of both County and Club in relation to the day to day running of the Northumberland County Tennis Ground. My thanks to Frank Matthewson, a member of the Club's Executive Committee, who provided valuable legal input into the completion of this new Agreement. A Joint Liaison Committee comprising two representatives each from Council and the Club Executive Committee met regularly during the year to discuss issues of mutual interest regarding the operation of the Club and the running of the grounds.

In August 2019, the Northumberland Club hosted the tennis and squash events held as part of the 2019 World Transplant Games. This was a major logistical event involving all the Club staff, some 80 volunteers and the organisation of many additional resources into the Club to deliver what proved to be an outstanding event. Our congratulations to all those involved in the Club who contributed to the success of the two days of competition.

I would like to thank all the members of Council for their support and contributions during the year and, in particular, the members of our own Executive Committee, Tom Kinloch, Martin Clark and George Murphy who shoulder the greatest load in keeping the Association's affairs on track. My thanks also to Chris Sanderson and the coaches who strive to maintain the Academy as the foremost venue for junior performance players in the north east and to Kim Sanderson who has combined her roles as Academy Administrator, County Administrator and Schools Co-Ordinator so effectively.

Chris Lott

Chairman

Northumberland Tennis Academy Manager, Chris Sanderson

The last 12 months has seen the Northumberland Tennis Academy continue in its multiple roles as a County Training venue, an LTA Local Player Development Centre (LPDC) and an established performance academy. County Training has been delivered in all age groups from U8 to U18 with pleasing successes in the various age groups. The LPDC programme is focused on the U10 age group and has provided training opportunities for talented players as well as being the only LPDC in Northumberland, Cumbria and Durham & Cleveland. In addition to these programmes, the existing Academy programme (NTA) has continued to deliver a comprehensive schedule of on court training, strength & conditioning and tournament support to approximately 120 players over the year.

In the younger age groups, there has been a significant increase in the commitment to the number of training hours, which has subsequently seen significant improvements in the standard of this age of player. This is an area the Academy will continue to develop to ensure players are on a performance pathway as early as possible with a view to competing at a regional and national level.

Players from the NTA took part in a tri-county training camp involving Cumbria and Durham & Cleveland which was very well received and helped highlight our stronger standard of player in comparison to other centres and counties. Further discussions have taken place to re-introduce junior county friendly matches, which will be a welcome addition to the calendar.

At a grass roots level closer links with the Northumberland Club have been developed allowing movement between the two programmes dependent upon standard and progression but with the ultimate goal of providing the most appropriate training opportunities to all players.

At a competitive level, NTA has once again had significant representation at County, Regional and National events with tournament wins and ranking increases all providing further evidence of the effectiveness of the training NTA offers. Whilst overseas tournament travel has reduced due to cost and other limiting factors there has still been success on the international stage, most notably with Abby Kelliher establishing her U14 Tennis Europe ranking.

Chris Sanderson was selected for and has completed the LTA's Coach Mentoring qualification and has conducted a number of very successful but on-going sessions with Northumberland coaches. The LTA will be expanding this initiative to all coaches regionally and nationally and Chris will be one of 12 coach mentors delivering sessions to raise the quality of delivery in the region.

In summary, 2019 was a year of new challenges and change but also continued success for the Northumberland Tennis Academy.

Northumberland LTA 2019 End of Year Report

Venues

- **LTA Minimum Standards**
 - 6th Minimum Standard introduced by the LTA. New standard required all LTA registered venues to ensure all Level 2+ coaches were LTA Accredited/+
 - Close partnership working between NLTA Safeguarding Officer Sue Oswald, designated County Leads, LTA Regional Team & LTA Participation Support Team
 - 100% compliance rate achieved across all registered venues in Northumberland
- **Venue Support**
 - Strong, joined up working established between NLTA and LTA Regional Team
 - Coverage of club support achieved across all registered venues in Northumberland
 - Each venue designated County Club Lead and/or LTA point of contact (Laurie Haines)
- **Tennis for Kids**
 - 9 coaches ran Tennis for Kids courses in 2019
 - Tennis for Kids courses delivered at 12 venues
 - 165 children aged 4-11 years participated in the programme in 2019, receiving 6 weeks of tennis coaching by a trained, LTA Accredited Coach, a racket, personalised t-shirt and set of balls
- **Nature Valley Big Tennis Weekend**
 - 11 venues delivered Nature Valley Big Tennis Weekend Open Days in 2019
 - 21 Open Day events were delivered in total, providing free tennis activity to a total of 239 attendees
- **2019 LTA Venue Forums**
 - 17 venues attended LTA Venue Forums in November
 - Two forums delivered in Northumberland - Newcastle (26th Nov) and Tynedale (21st Nov)
 - Forum topic: Growing Club Membership & Players
 - Content included:
 - Overview of current tennis landscape
 - What does a good club look like?
 - New LTA club mapping tool and market segmentation overview
 - LTA support available – next steps
 - County & National updates
- **Club Mapping Report**
 - 12 venues requested bespoke LTA Club Mapping Reports
 - Follow up meetings scheduled with 5 venues to review report contents & discuss Membership Attraction Plan
 - Reports include:
 - Segment breakdown of current club British Tennis Members
 - Tennis segment breakdown of local catchment area (10 & 20mins)

- Postcode analysis by tennis segment
- **Tyne Met College**
 - Tyne Met College supported through LTA FE support offer to develop and deliver a bespoke Tennis Plan for 2018/19
 - Over 600 students engaged through plan during 2018-2019 academic year
 - Two new College Tennis Activators confirmed in September, for 2019-20 academic year
 - New Tennis Development Plan developed in partnership with College and Activators. Plan targeting growth vs 2018/19 figures
 - 7 students attended SERVES Activator Training, linked to new SERVES Site at Howdon Hub. Students to support weekly delivery once sessions launch in 2020
 - 3 students due to complete Level 1 coaching assistant qualification in 2020, linked to workforce development element of plan
 - LTA FE funding offer is currently being redeveloped and will be launched ahead of 2020/21 academic year

Workforce

- **LTA Accreditation**
 - 35 LTA Accredited+ coaches linked to tennis venues in Northumberland
 - 36 LTA Accredited coaches linked to venues in the County
 - LTA Accredited Coaches – qualification breakdown:
 - 2x Level 1
 - 22x Level 2
 - 21x Level 3
 - 24x Level 4
 - 3x Level 5
- **North East Mentoring Programme**
 - 3 mentees completed the North East Female Coach mentoring scheme in 2019:
 - Emma Charlton (Cullercoats Tennis Club) – mentor Stuart Cass
 - Laura Featherstone (Tynedale Tennis Club) – mentor Tom Geary
 - Anna Winship (Collingwood Tennis Club) – mentor Stuart Cass
- **2019 LTA Coach Forum**
 - LTA Coach Forum delivered at David Lloyd Sunderland on 14th November
 - Content included:
 - New LTA Junior Programme (on court session)
 - World Tennis Number & competitions update
 - Rally
 - LTA Coach Accreditation & Coach Development
 - County & Regional Updates
 - 15 Northumberland Coaches attended
 - 5 coaches attended follow up session to discuss challenges and potential solutions to workforce landscape in the North East

- **Northumbria University**
 - 5 student volunteers supported tennis across Newcastle through the university & LTA workforce development programme
 - The students completed over 150 hours of voluntary work, linked to tennis activity, across the city in 2019
 - Northumbria University Tennis Ambassador Jess Southwell won the University's prestigious 2019 Volunteer of the Year Award, seeing off competition from over 3000 university volunteers – see article [here](#)
 - 2 Northumbria University students were selected for a 12 week Work Placement Programme, starting in 2020. The students will complete a total of 840 hours on placement, supporting to deliver against the LTA's VMOST and to help raise the profile of tennis in Northumberland
- **Junior Programme Coach Training**
 - The new LTA Junior Programme will launch in March 2020
 - The new programme aims to create a seamless pathway for children and juniors aged 18 years and under to develop their skills. The programme will focus on fun, progression and embedding recreational competition
 - The North East Junior Programme Coach Training Day is being held at David Lloyd Sunderland on 2nd April
 - 10 Northumberland Coached currently signed up to attend Coach Training Day

Programmes

- **SERVES**
 - **Hat-trick, Newcastle**
 - Tyrone Wynyard has come through the SERVES programme at Hat-trick. He is currently studying sport development at Northumbria University and is due to complete his Level 3 coaching qualification in 2020. Tyrone will also be delivering a 7 week project entitled "Tennis Against Bullying" in 2020.
 - **Howdon Hub, North Tyneside**
 - Charity organisation Family Gateway, based at the Howdon Hub in North Tyneside, joined the SERVES programme in 2019. The community centre will work alongside Tyne Met College to deliver a weekly tennis session for local residents, aged 8-18 years.
- **Open Court Programme**
 - The North East Open Court Programme, led by LTA Disability Development Partner Matt Elkington in partnership with Tyne & Wear Sport, continues to go from strength to strength
 - In 2019, a number of new programmes and initiatives were developed through the Open Court programme, included SEN schools' engagement in North Tyneside (led by Beverley Park LTC)
 - An Inclusive Tennis Course was delivered in partnership with North Tyneside Council in September 2019, funded by the Open Court Programme

- 4 venues attended Open Your Doors training in January 2020. The workshop, delivered by LTA Disability Lead Matt Elkington, covered simple steps and interventions that clubs could make, to become more inclusive and accessible. See promotion [here](#)
- **She Rallies**
 - 18 females attended a She Rallies training course in September 2019
 - The course was followed up with a live event, attended by 20 girls, enabling the newly trained She Rallies Activators to implement the skills learned. See promotion [here](#)
- **World Transplant Games**
 - Newcastle & Gateshead hosted the World Transplant Games in 2019
 - The Northumberland Club hosted the WTG tennis event on 21-22nd August
 - 121 athletes competed in over 200 tennis matches across the two days
 - A fantastic team of 80+ dedicated volunteers, ensured the event ran smoothly
 - The event was a huge success, with extremely positive feedback from players, volunteers, spectators and the World Transplant Games Federation
 - A full marketing & communications plan was delivered around the event, to raise profile of disability tennis in the lead up to, during and following the competition
 - To build on the buzz around the event, the LTA Regional Team and Frankie Rohan (Open Court Ambassador) delivered a family participation event on 22nd August, in which over 45 people took part in fun tennis and skills-based activities

Promotion

- **Website**
 - Northumberland LTA have developed a new County website, using Clubspark
 - The website promotes all LTA registered venues in the County, providing direct links to their respective websites
 - The County website can be viewed at www.northumberlandtennis.org.uk
- **Social media**
 - Thank you to Ashleigh Banes for overseeing social media promotion for Northumberland in 2019

Northumberland Ladies Tennis Team Report

LTA Summer County Cup 2019 – Amy Hoburn & Deborah Armstrong (Team Managers)

Group 3 – Ilkley

Date: 22-26th July 2019

Northumberland vs. Durham & Cleveland	-	Northumberland won 8-1
Northumberland vs. Buckinghamshire	-	Northumberland won 7-2
Northumberland vs. Nottinghamshire	-	Northumberland lost 5-4
Northumberland vs. Derbyshire	-	Northumberland won 6-3
Northumberland vs. Sussex	-	Northumberland won 5-1

Team Members: Emma Wilson, Stephanie Booth, Amy Hoburn, Lauren Jones, Deborah Armstrong, Sarah Whittle, Francesca Booth and Abigail Lemberger.

Northumberland Ladies' County Team achieved second place in Group 3 at Ilkley, earning them promotion into Group 2. Winning four out of five days, the team were pipped only by a strong Nottinghamshire team in a well fought 5-4 loss. The team competed well all week with every member contributing to the success. The team will compete in summer 2020 for a place in Group 1.

LTA Winter County Cup 2019 – Amy Hoburn & Deborah Armstrong (Team Managers)

Group 2b - Sunderland

Date: 22-24th November 2019

Northumberland vs. Sussex	-	Northumberland won 8-1	-	(singles 5-1 , doubles 3-0)
Northumberland vs. Somerset	-	Northumberland won 6-3	-	(Singles 4-2 , doubles 2-1)
Northumberland vs. Yorkshire	-	Northumberland won 5-4	-	(singles 3-3 , doubles 2-1)

Team Members: Amy Hoburn, Alexandra Walker, Grace Dixon, Stephanie Booth, Deborah Armstrong, Lauren Jones, Emma Charlton (reserve) and Abby Kelliher (non-travelling reserve).

Northumberland Ladies' County Team were promoted from Group 2b to Group 1 in a great team effort over the three-day event. Each member of the team made valuable contributions to the excellent results. Brilliant singles wins from Amy, Alex and Grace and doubles from Amy, Alex, Grace and Lauren on the final day clinched the promotion for the team in the nail biting final match against Yorkshire. We will compete in Group 1 at Bath this November for the 3rd time.

Northumberland Men's Team Tennis Report

LTA Summer County Cup

This year the men's team travelled to Frinton on Sea to compete in men's group 7 county cup. Unfortunately, due to player availability, the results were mixed but the team competed all week and the guys who came into the team represented the county well with their effort levels and attitude.

The team was as follows;

Adam Boba, Nikki Peel, Matt Lott, Ben Lott, Will Gray, Chris Jeffrey, Ben Kelliher, Gabe Rodda and Will Sharp.

The results were:

4-5 loss to Cumbria

5-4 win against Sussex

3-6 loss to Bedfordshire

4-5 loss to Channel Islands

9-0 loss to Avon

Hopefully next year we can turn out a competitive team all week.

LTA Winter County Cup

This year the men's winter team travelled to Liverpool Tennis Centre to compete in men's division 6. The team we managed to put out was a good mix of juniors and seniors, the team gelled well all weekend and all the players chosen to play gave 100%, in the end the team came away with promotion.

The team was as follows;

Adam Boba, Ronan Lunn, Cormac Lunn, Will Gray, Matthew Nice, Rory Thompson, Jordan Simpson, Alex Wilkins and Jimmy Nelson.

The results were;

8-1 win against Gloucestershire

9-0 win against South of Scotland

4-5 loss to Wiltshire (Northumberland were 4-2 up after singles securing promotion)

Hopefully we can use this positive experience to continue to put out good level men's teams, especially when the next generation of players is seemingly ready to commit to both summer and winter county cups, this mixed with the experience of the older players especially in doubles makes for an exciting time in Northumberland men's tennis.

Men's Teams

Mens Over 70 – Dennis Mitford

The men's over 70(s) have a strong squad of 10 players, who all play team tennis for their own clubs. As this is the oldest men's team, some older players who remain competitive, continue in the squad.

There were only 4 matches in the season and 7 players were called upon to represent their county. We were only able to record one win, home to Gloucester 3 – 1 rubbers. Against Avon and Somerset the match ended 2 – 2 rubbers, 5 – 5 sets and 38 – 38 games. Avon were ahead in games in the first 2 rubbers so they were awarded the match (very disappointed). In the away match against Wiltshire we were ahead by 1 – 0 rubbers when Neil Taylor (a first pairing) collapsed with a lower back spasm and the match had to be conceded. In the other away match against Lincolnshire we lost 0 – 4 rubbers, but again we had a medical issue with one of our players.

In the two away matches we travelled with 4 players, and if anything has been learned from the 2019 season, there is a need to take an additional player.

An eventful season, Dennis Mitford.

Mens Over 65 – Tony Pensom

Carried on a cloud of misplaced optimism, the Men's Over 65 squad entered the new season with its traditional energy and enthusiasm greatly outweighing its talent and potential. The first match was an early trial against our regular nemesis, Cumbria and the form book remained inside the window as they ran out winners 5:0. Though a comprehensive defeat, Nick Keeley stepped up to play No.1 singles and came close to taking his game to a Championship tiebreak, losing a tight second set 7:6 against the Cumbria captain. In the doubles, Jon Pope and Jim Anderson were not able to replicate the obdurate display of defence and battling points that is their trademark on the home territory of Beverley Park, picking up just 6 games in their 4 sets. Don Anderson joined Nick in the other doubles and competed well, losing both sets to a single break of serve.

Next was a season-defining match at home to Suffolk, with Robin Robinson making a welcome return to the fray after a year off with injury, joined by John Wiseman to compete in the singles. Both had excellent games, defeating higher-rated opponents with Robin triumphing in a Championship tiebreak. In their first round doubles, Nick and Don narrowly lost a first set tiebreak before falling away in the second set. So, at the halfway stage, a 2:1 lead gave cause for optimism – until the fickleness of fate intervened. In Nick and Don's return doubles, they lost to another Championship tiebreak, and Robin and John lost both sets to a single break of serve. A tight match was lost 3:2 by the narrowest of margins.

Deciding a change of air might benefit, the team then set off on a road trip to the delights of Nottingham and Cambridge, of which the highlight was probably the overnight stay in Peterborough and the visit to its magnificent cathedral and real ale Dutch canal barge. Against Nottinghamshire, Tony Pensom returned to the fold and quickly demonstrated the folly of that decision by losing his singles with distressing ease to an opponent who had the impertinence to return every shot with pace and precision. John Wiseman, on the other hand, had an epic battle in the No.2 singles, triumphing in a Championship tiebreak after playing exceptional tennis. Sadly, the doubles matches were less hotly contested, with Jon Pope and Nick Keeley succumbing in both their matches, as did John and Tony in their doubles. Leaving a 4:1 defeat.

Travelling on to Cambridge, the same players had a much closer battle. Jon and Nick won their first doubles with a rare degree of comfort, while Tony and John struggled in their singles. Roles were reversed in the doubles round, with Tony and John securing their game but Jon and Nick unable to overcome a strong pair, leaving the team to rue an opportunity lost and a 3:2 defeat.

The final match was another lengthy journey to Swindon to play Wiltshire. After another convivial evening among the lofty spires of Lincoln College, Oxford, Nick Keeley and Don Anderson reprised their roles in the singles while Vince Kennedy joined Tony Pensom in the doubles challenge. Nick and Don found it tough against strong opponents, but Tony and Vince came through a rigorous test to win their doubles on a second set tiebreak. So at 2:1 down there was still more than honour to play for. Sadly, fickle fate again showed its face, with both doubles being lost within a minute of each other on a Championship tiebreak – a potential 3:2 victory being snatched away by just a couple of points.

But for the final two points in 3 Championship tiebreaks, a 0:5 season could have been a 2:3 season and left us feeling our efforts and commitment had been fairly rewarded. Nevertheless, we battle on and will look forward to next season with excitement and determination. As ever, it has been a pleasure and a privilege to represent the County and to play with such a fine group of gentlemen – if our sportsmanship and enthusiasm could only be matched by a similar amount of talent, we would be a force to be reckoned with. As it is, my thanks go to all who have played and supported the team – and particularly Nick who was always willing to make himself available when need arose, and played in every match.

Tony Pensom

Mens Over 60 – Trevor Herron

This year the team was in a division of four, consisting of two away matches and one home match. We were comprehensively beaten in both away matches 5-0 (Durham & Cambridge). In the home tie, in which we could not turn out our strongest team, we were narrowly beaten 3-2 by Norfolk. Durham went on to win the division.

Looking forward to 2020, we have a stronger squad with the arrival of newly qualifying players and are training privately on indoor courts on which matches are played.

Mens Over 35s – Mark McPeake

No team was available this year.

Ladies Teams

Ladies Over 75s – Sara Chappell

Division A - 2019

Northumberland vs Lincolnshire	Won 4 – 0
Northumberland vs West of Scotland	Lost 3 – 1
Northumberland vs Cheshire	Lost 4 – 0
Northumberland vs Suffolk	Won 4 – 0
Northumberland vs Surrey	Lost 4 – 0

Sussex refused to come to us - too far to travel.

Team Members – Monica Ogden, Pat Bottrill, Helen French, Sandra Henderson, Margery Lyons and Sara Chappell (Captain).

The matches once again were enjoyed by all and many thanks go to team members for willing to travel. We have now played Surrey away for the last 3 years and it's a very long trip. The glass of wine on the train coming home is badly needed!! It would be nice to play them at home for change.

Ladies Over 70s – Angela Appleby

The team had a very successful season in Division 1B of the Seniors' Inter County Competition and despite losing one match to Notts who also lost a match, were crowned National Champions at the play-off finals held at David Lloyd, Dudley, West Midlands, on 29th November against Middlesex who were Division 1A winners. The squad only had four players and therefore the same team played in all the matches, these being Mary Corbett, Megs Rogers, Pauline Storey and myself. Despite the score being 3 rubbers to 1 in the final, it was extremely close with all four matches going to a professional tie-break 3rd set. With Northumberland leading by 2 rubbers to 1, it was a nail-biting deciding match when Mary and Megs had to save a match point at 9-8 down but came through to win 11-9! Middlesex did in fact end up with one more game than us. Thanks to my great team for their dedication, time and tremendous team spirit.

Results were as follows:

Northumberland vs Cheshire (A)	Won 3 rubbers to 1, 7 sets to 3, 48 games to 35
Northumberland vs Notts. (A)	Lost 3 rubbers to 1, 7 sets to 3, 47 games to 36
Northumberland vs Lancashire (A)	Won 3 rubbers to 1, 7 sets to 3, 47 games to 38
Northumberland vs Warwickshire (H)	Won 4 rubbers to 0, 8 sets to 2, 44 games to 26
Northumberland vs Suffolk (H)	Won 2 rubbers all, 5 sets to 4, 41 games to 39
Play-off final vs Middlesex (Dudley)	Won 3 rubbers to 1, 7 sets to 5, 41 games to 42

Ladies Over 65 – Julie Gainford

The over 65 ladies had an enjoyable season but we did not manage to maintain our position in Division Two - were in a group with very strong teams. We still managed to give a good account of ourselves with some of the matches being quite close.

Many Thanks to Christine Fairs, Brenda Yendall, Maureen Gibson and Pauline Bramley who all committed to the practices and matches.

Ladies Over 60 – Roz Askew

Home v West Scotland 15/6/19 lost 1-3

Home v Yorkshire 16/6/19 lost 0-4

Away v Hertfordshire 5/8/19 lost 4-0

Away v Middlesex 12/8/19 lost 4-0

Home v Shropshire 15/9/19 lost 1-3

Ladies Over 50 – Sue Trousdale

Northumberland Ladies Veterans O50, Division 3B, 2019

The ladies O50 team started the season with a home fixture against Cumbria on 2nd June. The team of Fiona Twaddle, Sue Trousdale, Alison Charlewood and Alison Duncan secured a convincing 4-0 win. Six days later the same team had their 2nd home match against East of Scotland. This was a closer fought match. In the first round, Fiona and Sue beat their first pair 6-2, 6-1. Alison and Alison lost a close first set in a tie break, but they then went on to win the second 6-4 and won the professional tie break-a great come back to go into the second round leading 2-0! In the second round it was a similar story, with Fiona and Sue winning 6-0, 6-0, and the two Alison's winning 7-5, 1-6, then clinching the rubber, again on the professional tie break-another great 4-0 win for Northumberland!

Our next match was an away fixture against Suffolk. Unfortunately, despite having squad players available for this fixture when it was made, I was left struggling to get a team.

Claire Whitfield, Alison Duncan, Sue Trousdale and Kim Todd made the long journey to Ipswich. In the first round, both pairs lost in 2 sets, so went into round 2, 2-0 down. In the second round Claire and Alison played their 2nd pair and kept their nerve to win 11-9 in a 3rd set professional tie break! Sue and Kim were playing the first pair; they won the first set 6-2, the 2nd set was much closer, but Kim and Sue took it 7-6, winning the tie break to 3! It was a great fight back in the 2nd round by all players so the match score was 2 -2 in rubbers, unfortunately Suffolk clinched the win on sets! I must give a huge thank you to Kim Todd who travelled independently from a prior engagement in London to ensure we could honor this fixture. Thank you, and very well played Kim!

Our 4th match was home, against North of Scotland. The team were Alison Duncan, Claire Whitfield, Fiona Twaddle and Sue Trousdale. This was a very close match. In the first round Alison and Claire lost 2-6, 4-6 to the first pair, Fiona and Sue beat the second pair 6-4, 6-3.

So, 1-1 on rubbers going into round 2! Unfortunately, despite our best efforts, the second round did not go our way; Fiona and Sue lost 4-6, 4-6 to the first pair and Alison and Claire lost on a professional tie break to the 2nd pair. This was a 3-1 win for North of Scotland.

Our final match was our 2nd away match against Shropshire at Shrewsbury. Again, despite having squad players available for this fixture when it was made, I was left struggling to get a team. Fortunately, Sandra Rickerby and Judith Short stepped up from the 60s squad. In the first round Alli Bell and Sue Trousdale lost to the first pair and Sandra and Judith lost to the second pair. So, 2-0 down at half time! Alli and Sue secured a 6-1, 6-2 win against the second pair to make it a 3-1 win for Shropshire.

This was my second season as captain. In summary, as last season, it was very mixed; we had some good wins and some close, hard fought defeats! Player availability again, on paper was good at the beginning of the season, however, in reality, circumstances change, therefore teams had to change. After a very positive start it became apparent we could do well in this league and gain promotion; hopefully it will be the season for promotion in 2020! We stay in 3B for another year. Thank you to all the squad players; Alli Bell, Alison Charlewood, Alison Duncan, Sue Trousdale, Fiona Twaddle and Claire Whitfield ; players enjoyed, and played, some great tennis! With a final big thank you to Kim Todd, Sandra Rickerby and Judith Short who stepped up and performed really well in our two away matches. Sue Trousdale

Ladies Over 40 – Emily Ogden

We started the season badly as we couldn't field a team against Cumbria. We also lost closely to North Wales 3-1.

In the last two home matches the team beat Durham 4-0 and East of Scotland 3-1.

Thanks for all the support from the team including: Svetlana Zakharchenko, Rachel Knowles, Jane Pledger, Romina Peverelli and Fiona North

Ladies Over 35 – Romina Peverelli

The team playing was: Emily Ogden, Jill Lambert, Fiona Twaddle, Claire Whitfield and Romina Peverelli.

We came 3rd in Division 5A. We won the first match against North Wales 4-1 on the first day. We lost our 2nd match against Derbyshire 2-3. This second match was very close, we were unlucky. We lost the first doubles in a championship tiebreak and as soon as we started our second doubles Fiona got hit in her eye very hard but kept playing. We lost our third match to Gloucestershire 2-3. They were the best team in our division last year and they deserved to win it. The highlight was the first doubles couple (Jill and Claire) who won 3 of the 4 championship tiebreaks that they played!

Junior County Cup Overview – Girls events
Jordan Simpson

18&U Girls

The 18&U Girls team were playing in Sunderland in Group 6B. They did very well and won promotion to Group 5 next year!

Results were as follows:

9-0 Win vs Channel Islands

5-4 Win vs Berkshire

(Isle of Man withdrew from the event)

The team players were Elena Baughman-Saunders, Emily Allison, Abby Kelliher, Lydia Smith, Liv Clark, Louise Smith and Kirstin McLeod.

14&U Girls

The 14&U Girls team were playing in Manchester.

Results were:

6-0 Loss vs Lancashire

6-0 Loss vs Cheshire

6-0 Win vs Cumbria

The team players were Abby Kelliher, Teodora Prisadnikova, Jess Hart, Aimee Knowles and Elizabeth Graham.

10&U Girls

A home fixture for the 10&U Girls team in Newcastle!

Results were:

4-0 Loss vs Lancashire

4-0 Loss vs West of Scotland

3-1 Win vs Cumbria

2-2 Win vs South of Scotland (Shootout Win)

They finished 3rd in their group.

Team players were Lara Savic, Nikoleta Rozsavolgyi, Jessica Lamb, Faye Brannon and Amelie Tones.

12&U Girls

The 12&U Girls were competing in Holcombe Brook and they did extremely well, winning all four fixtures as below:

Qualification

4-0 Win vs East of Scotland

3-1 Win vs Cheshire

3-1 Win vs Lancashire

4-0 Win vs North of Scotland

They then went through to the National Finals and played extremely well only losing out to Hertfordshire in a shootout!

The results for the National Finals were as follows:

4-0 Win vs Gloucester

3-1 Win vs Warwickshire

3-1 Win vs Middlesex

2-2 Loss vs Hertfordshire (Shootout Loss)

The team players were Abby Kelliher, Teodora Prisadnikova, Jess Hart, Aimee Knowles and Sophie Jackson.

9's Mixed

The 9&U team played in Sunderland and finished 3rd in their group.

Results were:

6-3 Loss vs Durham & Cleveland

9-0 Loss vs Yorkshire

6-3 Win vs Cumbria

Team players were Jacob Atchia, Adam Mason, Shay Gillan, Scarlett French, Joshua Dowdell, Amelie Atchia and Alexandra Osbourne.

Junior County Cup Overview – Boys events
Jordan Simpson

18U Boys

The 18&U Boys team were playing in Sunderland in Group 6B. The results were:

9-0 Win vs Channel Islands

8-1 Win vs Somerset

5-2 Loss vs Avon

The team players were Ronan Lunn, Will Grey, Gareth Rickaby, Matthew Nice, Gabriel Rodda, Chris Jeffery, Ben Kelliher and Marcus Jeffery.

They will remain in Group 6 for 2020.

14U Boys

The 14&U Boys team were playing at Lytham, St Anne's.

Results were as follows:

6-0 Loss vs East of Scotland

6-0 Loss vs Essex

4-2 Loss vs South of Scotland

The team players were Sam Knowles, Paul Freeman, Denis Lapping, Kouros Anssarizadeh and Oliver Cass.

10U Boys

This year the 10&U Boys team were in Lytham St Anne's. As can be seen from the results below this was a very close group with Northumberland losing out to both Cheshire and North of Scotland on a shootout loss.

Results were:

3-1 Win vs East of Scotland

2-2 Loss vs Cheshire (Shootout Loss)

4-0 Loss vs Lancashire

2-2 Loss vs North of Scotland (Shootout Loss)

Team players were Luke Thompson, Ben Beard, Oliver Heron and Aryan Sudharsan.

12U Boys

The 12&U boys team were playing in Widnes this year.

Their results were as follows:

2-2 Win vs East of Scotland (Shootout Win)

2-2 Loss vs Cheshire (Shootout Loss)

4-0 Loss vs Lancashire

4-0 Loss vs North of Scotland

They finished 4th in their group.

Team players for this event were Oliver Cass, Alastair McLeod, Mark Alexandrov and Jaiden Khanna.

NORTHUMBERLAND TENNIS AWARDS 2019

AWARD	RECIPIENT
Most improved Junior (Male)	Sam Knowles
Most Improved Junior (Female)	Emma Charlton
Individual Performance of the Year (Junior)	Matthew Nice
Individual Performance of the Year (Adult)	Julian Goodall
Education Award of the Year	Broadway East First School
Team of the Year	Northumberland County Girls 12 & U Team
Coach of the Year	Lauren Jones
Junior Volunteer of the Year	Hugo MacGowan
Adult Volunteer of the Year	Sarah Ferguson
Young Competition Organiser of the Year	Rebecca Wright
Club of the Year	Riding Mill Tennis Club
Gordon Brewis Service to Tennis Award	Martin Clark
Ann Horler Memorial Salver	Teodora Prisadnikova
Fair Play Award (Adult)	Ross Breen
Fair Play Award (Junior)	Luke Thompson

Sport Newcastle Open 2019

<u>Event</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Runner Up</u>
8U Mixed Singles	Samuel Walker	Ronald Lee
9U Boys Singles	Jake Irving	Samuel Walker
9U Girls Singles	Elisha Lax	Grace Armanios
10U Boys Singles	Oliver Barlow	Ben Beard
10U Girls Singles	Lara Savic	Laura Cheal
14U Boys Singles	Kouros Anssarizadeh	Mark Alexandrov
14U Girls Singles	Jessica Hart	Aimee Knowles
14U Boys Doubles	Kouros Anssarizadeh George Bowen	Jacob Beard Andrew Hunsley
18U Boys Singles	Sam Knowles	Ben Wrann
18U Boys Doubles	Benjamin Kelliher Gabriel Rodda	Linus Bense Daniel Buckle
Men's Singles	Ronan Lunn	Roman Stepanov
Men's 60+	Michael Eggleston	Gary Bishop

The Northumberland Open 2019 Results

Event	Position	Name(s)
Open Mens Singles	Winner	Hamish Stewart
	Runner up	Joseph Newman – Billington
Open Womens Singles	Winner	Emma Wilson
	Runner up	Hannah Mccolgan
Open Mens Doubles	Winner	Samuel Archer & Adam Barratclough
	Runner up	Adam Boba & Chris Whittle
Open Womens Doubles	Winner	Amy Hoburn & Lauren Jones
	Runner up	Stephanie Booth & Emma Wilson
Open Mixed Doubles	Winner	Adam Boba & Emma Wilson
	Runner up	Adam Barratclough & Amy Hoburn
60+ Mens Singles	Winner	Michael Eggleston
	Runner up	Trevor Herron
40+ Womens Singles	Winner	Tracey Gaskill
	Runner up	Margaret French
40+ Mens Singles	Winner	Andrew Steel
	Runner up	William Ip
Womens Evening Singles	Winner	Cara Todd
	Runner up	Laura Steel
Mens Evening Singles	Winner	David Esther
	Runner up	Cormac Lunn
Men's Handicap Singles	Winner	Neil Charlton
	Runner up	William Ip
Men's Handicap Doubles	Winner	Neil Charlton & Ian Preston
	Runner up	Alan Howie & Mark McPeake
Women's Handicap Doubles	Winner	Lesley Cranston & Monica Ogden
	Runner up	Hazel Forster & Romina Peverelli
Mixed Handicap Doubles	Winner	Trent Ackhurst & Romina Peverelli
	Runner up	Steven Dawson & Sue Howie
Family Doubles	Winner	Oliver Cass & Stuart Cass
	Runner up	James Beard & Jacob Beard
18U Girls Singles	Winner	Beth Laybourne
	Runner up	Halle Pringle
18U Boys Singles	Winner	Yujiro Onuma
	Runner up	Matthew Telford
18U Girls Doubles	Winner	Beth Laybourne & Halle Pringle
	Runner up	Megan Almond & Olivia French
18U Boys Doubles	Winner	Will Gray & Ronan Lunn
	Runner up	Adam Hillerby & Scott Hillerby
16U Girls Singles	Winner	Cara Todd

	Runner up	Abby Kelliher
16U Boys Singles	Winner	Matthew Nice
	Runner up	Adam Clunie
16U Boys Doubles	Winner	Will Gray & Matthew Nice
	Runner up	Marcus Jeffery & Ronan Lunn
14U Girls Singles	Winner	Abby Kelliher
	Runner up	Isabella Moss
14U Boys Singles	Winner	Scott Hillerby
	Runner up	James Duffy
14U Girls Doubles	Winner	Abby Kelliher & Teodora Prisadnikova
	Runner up	Sophie Jackson & Aimee Knowles
14U Boys Doubles	Winner	Sam Knowles & Denis Lapping
	Runner up	Adam Clunie & James Duffy
12U Girls Singles	Winner	Teodora Prisadnikova
	Runner up	Aimee Knowles
12U Boys Singles	Winner	Kouros Anssarizadeh
	Runner up	Jaiden Khanna
12U Girls Doubles	Winner	Abby Kelliher & Teodora Prisadnikova
	Runner up	Sophie Jackson & Aimee Knowles
12U Boys Doubles	Winner	Kouros Anssarizadeh & George Bowen
	Runner up	Oliver Cass & Thomas O'Hara
9U Girls Singles	Winner	Elisha Lax
	Runner up	Scarlett French
9U Boys Singles	Winner	Jake Irving
	Runner up	Daniel Davies – Riand
8U Girls Singles	Winner	Olivia Erskine
	Runner up	Olivia Welsh
8U Boys Singles	Winner	Will Morgan
	Runner up	Ronald Lee

The Northumberland County Closed 2019

<u>Event</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>
Mens Singles	Winner	Ronan Lunn
	Runner up	Roman Stepanov
18U Boys Doubles	Winner	M. Jeffery & G. Rickaby
	Runner up	B. Kelliher & G. Rodda
18U Boys Singles	Winner	Ronan Lunn
	Runner up	Gabriel Rodda
16U Girls Singles	Winner	Abby Kelliher
	Runner Up	Teodora Prisadnikova
16U Girls Doubles	Winner	E. Baughman-Saunders & A. Kelliher
	Runner Up	L. Calrk & K. McLeod
16U Boys Singles	Winner	Sam Knowles
	Runner up	Marcus Jeffery
16U Boys Doubles	Winner	M. Jeffery & R. Lunn
	Runner up	S. Knowles & D. Lapping
14U Boys Doubles	Winner	S. Knowles & D. Lapping
	Runner up	O. Cass & A. McLeod
14U Girls Singles	Winner	Jessica Hart
	Runner up	Teodora Prisadnikova
14U Boys Singles	Winner	Sam Knowles
	Runner up	Kouros Anssarizadeh
12U Boys Doubles	Winner	O. Cass & A. McLeod
	Runner up	K. Anssarizadeh & O. Clark
12U Girls Singles	Winner	Aimee Knowles
	Runner up	Zoe Matthews
12U Boys Singles	Winner	Kouros Anssarizadeh
	Runner up	Oliver Cass
10U Girls Singles	Winner	Lara Savic
	Runner up	Nikoletta Kira Rozsavolgyi
10U Boys Singles	Winner	Oliver Barlow
	Runner up	Luke Thompson
9U Girls Singles	Winner	Amelie Atchia
(best placed in 8U Mixed event)		
9U Boys Singles	Winner	Jacob Atchia
	Runner up	Adam Mason
8U Boys Singles	Winner	Samuel Walker
(in Mixed event)	Runner up	William Catterson
8U Girls Singles	Winner	Olivia Welsh
(in 8U Mixed event)	Runner up	Sophie Motion