

**RUDGWICK
LAWN
TENNIS
CLUB
Newsletter
2022**



At the Tennis Sussex Awards event in February 2022 the efforts and success of Rudgwick Tennis Club were officially recognised with the awards for:

Tennis Club of the Year

Team of the Year:

Girls' 16 and Under

Junior Sportsmanship

Player of the Year:

Lottie Barr

These are fantastic achievements, reflecting the huge efforts of many individuals.

Please read our 2022 Newsletter and see how you can become part of the fun and success.

We cater for all standards – and our Pistorius family coaching team can help whatever your level – from tiny juniors starting to find their balls skills through to the elite players.

www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/RudgwickTennisClub

RUDGWICK LAWN TENNIS CLUB Newsletter 2022



Welcome from the Chair

Chair's Statement for 2022 RLTC Newsletter **SUSSEX TENNIS CLUB OF THE YEAR**

Despite all the problems and restrictions the club and all of us faced last year, I think we can look back with a great deal of pride in what our club is achieving. This success has been recognised by us being awarded Club of the Year by Sussex LTA Tennis, which is a fantastic achievement for a relatively small club like ours.

We managed at last officially to open our new clubhouse, with a lovely ceremony during our finals day. It was quite poignant to have Anne Rollings, a 92 year old founder member of the club, perform this for us, particularly being photographed with our young men's singles champion, Gabe O'Keefe, in front of an honours board showing her as ladies champion back in the 1970's.

All our adult league teams were promoted in the summer, two of them, Men's 1 & Ladies as champions, with only rain snatching the top spot from the Men's 2 team.



But pride of place must go to what our juniors are achieving. Most of the club's tournament cups are now held by them, and we have several in Sussex County training squads. The pinnacle of this success is our Girls 16 & under team being champions of the whole of Sussex – well done Becca, Morgan, Lottie, Hollie, Olivia and Liv. This success was recognised when they were given the Team of the Year award by Tennis Sussex and Lottie Barr became Junior Sportsmanship Player of the Year.

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And to cap this off we have a record number of members (245), with around 50% being juniors.

Now I think it is time to thank those who have contributed so much to all of this. The success of the juniors is down mainly to the wonderful coaching of the Pistorius family – Warwick, Kathy, Amy and even occasionally Josh. We are very lucky to have them.

I should also mention an unsung bunch of heroes – the parents – who bring their sons & daughters down to the club. One in particular has shown devotion beyond the usual. Chris Kings, father of Morgan, ran the successful Girls team, and even talent spotted to give us a 6th member of the squad.

Our adult teams are run by Sid Charlesworth and Tiina Staddon, and having done this in the past I know it can be a stressful and difficult task. Sid also devotes his Monday evenings to running the club's popular turn up and play sessions. But perhaps the biggest unsung hero is Chris Blizzard who combines being treasurer with membership secretary. I know from previous clubs this is an area where many voluntary organisations fall down, but there is no chance of that happening at our club. Imagine how much easier it is for us when we receive draft accounts only hours into our new accounting year.

So for next year it really is hopefully more of the same. We are looking to introduce a new club turn up and play session, possibly at the weekend and with some light refreshments, as the Thursday evening session did not turn out to be well attended last year. Please look out for publicity about this once we have addressed some of the logistics. More tennis, more members, more social events, and above all more success on court.

There is one important issue we can also hopefully tackle. Our top courts are now past the end of their life and we do aim to be able to re-surface in late summer/autumn. If finances allowed we would love to completely replace the acrylic with a porous surface, but it is likely we will only be able to replace the current surface.

Tim Bloomfield

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What's On Each Week at Rudgwick Tennis Club?

Rudgwick Tennis



Club Sessions

From the Spring through to the Autumn we regularly hold “turn up and play sessions” on Monday evenings from 6.30pm and 7.30pm onward respectively. Committee members will be present wherever possible to run these sessions. Depending on the weather, these sessions will also take place during winter months. Attendance is informally organised through a WhatsApp group.

A Saturday afternoon session will be introduced this year – details to follow.

Tennis Social Evenings

We will be holding social events with catering, and in particular, the previously held monthly Friday evening supper evenings

Mid-week Competitive Match Practice

Informally arranged each week by one of the group, we aim to arrange pairings for some or all on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. During these sessions players will be aiming to improve competitive, match-play skills. If you would be interested in joining the weekly email circulation list for these sessions, please contact Tim Bloomfield. You may be asked to undertake a playing-in test with Warwick.

These sessions are open to both men and women and it would be great to have some excellent mixed-doubles sets. We charge participants for the use of club balls and run an account, requesting payment to clear the account from time to time. Players will also be required to pay the Winter Light Subscription (see page 7)

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What's On at Rudgwick Tennis Club?

Club Competitions

The annual club competition in both singles and doubles will take place from May onwards, with finals day scheduled for a date in the autumn, to be decided in due course. All members will be offered the chance to enter by email. The 2021 winners were:

Men's singles	Gabe O'Keefe
Ladies' Singles	Morgan Kings
Men's Doubles	Gabe O'Keefe & Rob Jones
Ladies' Doubles	Holly Hunter & Lottie Barr
Mixed Doubles	Gabe O'Keefe & Morgan Kings



In addition our coaches organise a number of junior competitions with details announced throughout the year.

Adult and Child tournament

The annual Peter Jarvis Tournament will take place on a date to be decided. This is a doubles tournament played by adult and child pairs. Again more detail will follow nearer the time by email.

Safeguarding Policy

Our Safeguarding Officer is Dan Wood and our Safeguarding Policy can be found on both the noticeboard and website. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact him, or any other committee member in his absence. Confidentially requests will always be respected.

www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/RudgwickTennisClub

Rudgwick Tennis

What's On at Rudgwick Tennis Club?

Inter-Club Matches

Following the recent success of the club's teams, this summer we have, again, entered two men's teams in the Sussex [doubles only] leagues played at weekends. We also have a ladies' team in the league. We need a large pool of players prepared to play competitive league tennis. If you are interested in playing please let Sid Charlesworth or Tiina Staddon know.

We may again, if the timetable allows, organise some enjoyable social matches against other local clubs.



Court Booking

Members can access the court booking system via the website. You will need your ClubSpark login and password, created on joining the club. You can just turn up to play with fellow members, but you do risk losing out if all courts have been booked by others. Private play can only take place when courts are not being used for coaching, club sessions or matches.

During term times, the following courts/times are likely to be blocked for coaching:

Mondays	Courts 3/4	10.00am - 11.00am
Mondays	Courts 3/4	3.30pm - 6.30pm
Tuesdays	Courts 3/4	3.40pm - 6.30pm
Wednesdays	Courts 3/4	4.00pm - 7.30pm
Thursdays	Courts 3/4	10.30am - 11.30am
Thursdays	Courts 3/4	3.45pm - 7.30pm
Fridays	Courts 3/4	4.00pm - 7.30pm
Saturdays	Courts 3/4	10.00am - 11.00am

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What's On at Rudgwick Tennis Club?

Membership Categories

We are pleased to let you know that we have introduced a couple of new membership categories and also to remind you of one that is proving increasingly popular:

“Remote” members living >30 miles from Rudgwick, and therefore only likely to use the courts occasionally, may join to a sub of £50

“Tinies” (those aged 7 and under) may join for a reduced sub of £20

“Parent” members may use the courts with their child member(s) for a sub equal to that paid for their eldest child.

Winter Light Subscription

Some years ago the committee decided to scrap the token system for operating the lights – in favour of the current system which will continue.

In effect this is an honesty box – if you think you will be wanting to use the floodlights, please sign up for the £30 per head winter light subscription, entitling you to free use of the lights. This special levy can be paid with your annual subscription or when a reminder communication are sent around.

Lighting for club events will continue to be provided by the Club and lighting for individual and group coaching sessions will be organised by our Coaching team.

Please try and use the lights only for the court(s) in use where this is possible. If you turn off lights, leave them for at least 15 minutes, for the lights to cool, before switching them back on. When coming to the club to play under floodlights please try and get there before any previous players have turned the lights off – otherwise you will have to wait a while for them to re-light.

Wimbledon Tickets

Members may be aware that the LTA is not passing tickets to tennis clubs around the country to distribute to members via a club ballot. This year it has been decided to hold a national ballot, organised by the LTA. Details of how to enter this ballot should be available on the LTA website.



The Tennis Club Website

www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/RudgwickTennisClub

The club's website is within an LTA "ClubSpark" umbrella. If you have mislaid your ClubSpark login or password, your login should be your email address and you can click on "forgotten your password" if necessary.

The website enables you to book courts – but please do remember to cancel a booking as soon as possible if you know you will not be able to use the court.

Equipment

The club provides tennis balls for club events and a supply of used balls can usually be found in the clubhouse and/or hut. New tubes of 4 can be purchased from Warwick Pistorius, Chris Blizzard, Tim Bloomfield and Jane Gillam – ATP Head for £4.50 per tube, Head Championship for £4 per tube and Wilson US Open for £6 per tube.



Warwick Pistorius and club member, Susann Graham-Cloete are an authorised Head Tennis equipment agent and supplier of Head racquets, shoes and other equipment at better than internet prices. Warwick can also offer a quick turnaround racquet re-stringing service, with competitive prices and advice on string qualities to suit your game and racquet.

Contact Susann : susann@whackitsports.com and mobile 07771997091

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Coaching

Our coaches, Warwick, Kathy and Amy Pistorius, look forward to another great year of coaching at the club. The coaching team is happy to assist you with a bespoke coaching solution for yourself or your children. We cater for all ages and abilities and each day run both adult and junior group sessions as well as individual lessons.

The Coaching programme changes each term so please contact the coaching team for full and up to date information.

For details on the cost and timing of all coaching sessions, and to sign up, please contact Warwick, Kathy and Amy at coaching4alltennis@gmail.com or phone 07912 612296 (Warwick and Kathy) or 07455 009238 (Amy).

Warwick, Kathy and Amy can cater for all standards. If you are a complete beginner, don't be afraid to try. They will show you how to gain the ball skills required to enjoy yourself on court. Squad coaching times, with approximate age ranges are:



SQUAD TIMES	Age <6	Age 5 - 8	Age 8 - 10	Age 9 - 11	Age >10	Age >11	Ladies
LTA category		red/orange	orange/green	green	yellow	yellow	
Mondays	3.35 - 4.15	4.15 - 5.00	5.00 - 6.30				10.00 - 11.00
Tuesdays		3.40 - 4.10	4.00 - 4.45		5.45 - 6.30		
Tuesdays				4.45 - 5.45			
Wednesdays				4.00 - 6.00		6.00 - 7.30	
Thursdays			3.45 - 4.15		5.00 - 6.00	6.00 - 7.30	10.30 - 11.30
Fridays		6.00 - 6.30	4.00 - 6.00			6.00 - 7.30	
Saturdays			10.00 - 11.00				

Your Committee

Chair

Tim Bloomfield 07702 675286 timbloom@waitrose.com

Secretary and Communications

James Graham-Cloete 07586 807098 jamescloete@yahoo.com

Treasurer & Membership Secretary

Chris Blizzard 07920 150367 blizard@madasafish.com

Director of Tennis

Warwick Pistorius 07969 175415 coaching4alltennis@gmail.com

Safeguarding Officer

Dan Wood 01483 271224 danwood@hotmail.co.uk

Maintenance

Mark Evans 07867 557557 mark@email356.co.uk

General

Jane Gillam 01403 752088 jane@franchisetms.com

Tiina Staddon 07894 801056 tiina.Staddon@hotmail.co.uk

Men's Team Captain

Sid Charlesworth 07895 167071 scharlesworth@btinternet.com

Coaches

Warwick Pistorius 07912 612296 coaching4alltennis@gmail.com

Kathy Pistorius 07912 612296 coaching4alltennis@gmail.com

Amy Pistorius 07455 009238 coaching4alltennis@gmail.com

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Data Protection

Members should be aware that their contact details will be stored by the club. The Club undertakes not to give permission to any person to use the contact list for anything other than tennis club business.

RUDGWICK LAWN TENNIS CLUB

SUBSCRIPTION FORM FOR 2022/23 YEAR

Please complete and return this form to:
CJ Blizzard, Coxfold, Cox Green, Rudgwick, Sussex RH12 3DD (email: blizard@madasafish.com)

Names and other details of those applying for membership on this form	
Names	Age (if under 24 on 1 April 2022)
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

Address and post code	Telephone number	Email address (for juniors, please provide email address of parent)

☒ Tick this box if you consent to RLTC holding personal data about you, as set out on this form

SUBSCRIPTIONS				Amount due
Rudgwick Lawn Tennis Club Subscriptions				
	Number	Subscription		
Family Membership (see below)		£240		£
Adult Couple		£210		£
Adult Single Person		£125		£
Remote person membership (see below)		£50		£
Parent (see below)		£31.50 or £20 (see below)		£
Young adult (18 to 23 years on 1 April 2022)		£35		£
Junior (over 7 and under 18 years on 1 April 2022)		£31.50		£
Junior (7 years and under on 1 April 2022)		£20.00		£
Donation				£
				TOTAL "A" £
Winter lights subscription - see Newsletter for details	Per person	£30	TOTAL "B" £	
Clubhouse key deposit (payable for each key) (and only available for adult and young adult members)	Per key (see below)	£10	TOTAL "C" £	

It would be very helpful if you could pay your sub by internet transfer to the club account at: Sort code 30-94-41, Account number 01645011
Please ensure you quote your name and send the form (or all information detail requested), by email, to the membership secretary

GRAND TOTAL DUE "A" + "B" + "C" £

Amount payable to Rudgwick Lawn Tennis Club

Note

- * The tennis club is a members' club. Please ensure that all members of a family who wish to play tennis are members of the tennis club.
- * For the tennis club a family consists of two adults and up to four juniors or young adults, all at the same address
- * Remote person membership. If you live >30 miles from Rudgwick (eg in London) and therefore play tennis at Rudgwick only occasionally, this new membership category might be of interest and encourage you to join Rudgwick.
- * A parent member is permitted to use the courts with their junior member(s). The sub payable is the same as that for the oldest child in the family.
- * It is not necessary to pay a key deposit every year. If you already have a key, please keep it and do not pay another deposit unless you want an additional key.
- * The Club undertakes not to give permission to any person to use the club's contact list for anything other than tennis club business and tennis-related charity business.