



Strathblane Tennis Club

Newsletter Spring 2022

Welcome to a new season!

With our **membership nearly doubled** over the past year, we look forward to a busier time in the new season:

- With our new court surface,
- Plans for upgrading the clubhouse and floodlights,
- Options for new junior and adult coaching timetable. *See right →*

Strathblane tennis lessons 2022-23:- What times would work for you?

Following the recent survey, our coaching team have narrowed down the options for a new regular coaching schedule.

Please complete the [online questionnaire](#) to indicate what times you or your child might be interested and able to attend.

*The selected options will kick off in the week commencing 18th April 2022, so get your preference in **ASAP**.*

Sally Gray

(sally@kirkburndrive.net 07789 207356)

Social tennis

Our club has always had an emphasis on social play, during the club times on Saturday afternoons and certain weekday evenings. These hours are detailed on the website at

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/StrathblaneLTC/PlayingTimes> . In recent times, it has been hard to be sure there will be someone to play with, so we encourage use of WhatsApp groups to coordinate with other members. If you are not in a group and would like to join, let us know.

We are also designating additional times, **with women's sessions on Tuesdays**, and **men's sessions on Thursdays**. Older teens are welcome of course to join these.

Our club is unusual in providing **balls** for play at club times. Although we use for a large part the leftover match balls, there is still a certain drain on finances. Members are encouraged to bring their own balls.

Team captains hope to organise coaching to keep up the high standards. Please don't be shy of volunteering, even if you don't feel confident – the matches are fun and we were all beginners once!

Mixed teams for the **Autumn and Winter Leagues** are managed by Laura Nicolson (01877 382803).

Membership and Subscriptions

Membership is now open for 2022-2023 season, **subscription rates unchanged again!!** As previously, there are big discounts for younger adults and students, and for new* adult members:



Category	Description (ages as at 1 April 2022)	Paid in full by 30/4/22	Paid over 3 months
Adult (23+)	23 years or older	£130 *	3 x £44 *
Adult (18-22 and concessions)	18-22 years, concessions**	£35 *	3 x £12 *
Senior Citizen	Adults over state retirement age	£70 *	3 x £24 *
Junior	8 to 17 years	£22 *	3 x £7.50 *
Cadet	Under 8 years	£15 *	3 x £5 *
Family (1 adult)	1 adult plus dependent child(ren)	£140 *	3 x £47 *
Family (2 adults)	2 adults plus dependent child(ren)	£270 *	3 x £90 *
School holiday pass	Under 18	£5	

* **NEW JOINERS HALF PRICE!!** If you are a new member (or if your membership lapsed 2 or more years ago) contact us for a special half price introductory year.

** Concessions are for adults of working age who are unemployed, full-time students, or in receipt of Universal Credit.

School holiday pass allows use of the courts in the daytime during the school holidays/closures.

Memberships and contact details are managed through the website at <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/StrathblaneLTC> (click on Membership). Existing members will receive a renewal invitation with a special link direct to update your membership details and payment options. If you prefer, you can arrange payment and contact the Treasurer to renew.

The ClubSpark login process is gradually being merged with LTA Advantage (formerly British Tennis membership). LTA Advantage Play membership is free. It would help us if you link your LTA profile to the club. Finally, **please make sure your British Tennis membership (adults and juniors) is up to date and you are linked to Strathblane LTC as your "venue".** British Tennis Lite membership is free of charge at <http://www.lta.org.uk/advantage>.



Tennis Lessons

We retain the services of established local coach Hannah Pickford and her team to take on the coaching for another year. **Easter holiday camps** are **open** for booking **Friday 9th April and Thurs 14th April 2022**.

We are hoping to establish a new pattern of junior and adult coaching this year, to continue beyond the normal spring and summer blocks. **See the box on page 1.**



Competition & Team News

Last season Men's and Women's teams returned to a limited programme of competition across Central District. The **Women's Doubles** team will play in **Division 2** again this year. Practice sessions are planned for Tuesday evenings in April, just before the matches start. Players interested can contact captain Jane Young on 07972 061234.

The **Men's Doubles** squad this year is too small to field a team reliably, so we have reluctantly taken the decision not to enter the leagues this year. However, with new members and social play we hope to regroup and re-enter next year. Players interested in the team can contact Graeme on 07890 101126.

We also plan for the first time to host **junior competitions** with Central District – more information to follow.

Committee/management

This year as ever we have had to comply with yet further new levels of management and regulation as a condition of our affiliation to the LTA/Tennis Scotland. **We are in serious need of more volunteers – fresh volunteers – to share in the running of the club.** Our recent AGM was again poorly attended, though we were delighted to welcome a new committee member in Stephen Barr.

Highlights of 2021-2022

No of Memberships	2021	2020	Diff
Family	6	5	3
Adult (inc 12 family adult members)	27	17	10
Junior & Cadet (inc 18 junior family members)	40	16	24
Concessions - Senior Citizens	6	4	2
Concessions - Adult 18-22 student & unemployed	8	4	4
Family members are included in totals for adults/juniors etc			
	81!	41	

For this next season only, our talented committee members and office bearers are:

- John Gray – President/Welfare Officer (tel. 01360 771031 or 07860 945348)
- Laura Nicolson- Secretary (01877 382803)
- Allison Allan – Treasurer (01360 770709)
- Mark Roberts – Vice President/Social/publicity
- Sally Gray – Coaching/Junior coordinator (07789 207356)



Graeme Ross – Committee Member/Men's captain
Alastair Balfour – Committee Member
Stephen Barr – Committee Member

We also greatly appreciate those members who help in all sorts of ways without being committee members. Special mention as always to 'janny' David James.

Accreditation & Safeguarding (Child protection)

To maintain our affiliation to LTA & Tennis Scotland requires a lot of attention to making the club a happy and safe place for everyone, and of course for children and vulnerable adults. The designated Welfare Officer is John Gray, reporting to Tennis Scotland Chief Welfare Officer. John can be contacted with any concerns, or you can report concerns directly using the online form at <https://safeguardingconcern.lta.org.uk/>. Of course in case of immediate danger, dial 999.

At the recent AGM, we reported on: annual accreditation and risk assessments via LTA & PI insurers; Policies and code of conduct exist for Safeguarding, Diversity & Inclusion & Code of Conduct; Inspections &c for electrical safety and fire; Covid risk assessment. Thanks to all the committee (+ David) for your support in this.

Actions anticipated for 2022 include: 'Safeguarding Support Visit' with Tennis Scotland; Review & update policies on Safeguarding, Code of Conduct, adding policies on whistleblowing, changing rooms, photography etc.; Formalise safety inspections and Risk Assessments; Adding/Updating PVG status for volunteers.

The existing policies can be viewed in the clubhouse and online at <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/StrathblaneLTC/Resources>.

Pedestrian safety/Parking

Now that Covid restrictions are easing, we should expect the Village Club to be busier than in 2020-2021. The Car Park at the back of the Village Club is Private. Please remember not to park in this car park when there are events on in the Village Club. **Anyone can check the calendar on the Village Club website <http://villageclub1911.org/> for current or upcoming events. If in any doubt, please avoid parking in the car park at any time.** Alternative parking is available, e.g. beside the shops in Southview Road. In the evening there is parking available beside the primary school.

Enjoy your tennis!!

*John Gray,
President*

Coronavirus COVID-19

Under "Beyond Level 0" guidance, social distancing is no longer required outdoors, and 1m distance is enough indoors. Please continue to observe good hygiene before, during and after using our facilities.

For the latest guidance check the LTA website

<https://www.lta.org.uk/news/coronavirus-latest-advice/#Scotland>