

# THORNER TENNIS CLUB NEWS

Spring 2024



## **Hello and Welcome from Chairman Adrian Joyce**

Welcome to a new season of tennis - the courts are having their spring makeover and there are big plans for the season ahead. There is definitely a level of increased professionalism at the club with new communication touchpoints (newsletter etc) and a significantly expanded coaching programme plus the rise of competitive tennis. Membership numbers have now normalised following the covid surge returning to pre covid levels, and I am keen for the club to focus on ensuring long term stability (both financial and otherwise) so that we can continue to move forward with a sustainable footing and provide an extensive offering to you the members.

We have 62 children in coaching at Thorner with numbers increased from the 2022 - 2023 season with ages ranging from 2 - 17 years, testament to Nic's ongoing success and that of her team. Steve Guy and Karen Spong have agreed to stay on in their roles as Mens and Ladies captains following a successful season and I am grateful to them for providing such support across the teams.

A huge thank you to Peter Boydell for his ongoing efforts in running the Men's ladder and the 'Le Thornoi' tournament in 2023. I hope that we can continue this into the new season and look to a similar format for those Ladies who wish to play during the summer.

New members are always welcome, irrespective of previous experience and talent, so do encourage any friends to join as I think we have a lot to offer from a small club such as ours.

Lets Go !!  
Adrian



thornertennis@gmail.com

# Action on the Courts



## Junior News

Well done to all juniors who have continued to commit at least once weekly to their tennis throughout the winter months.

Across all age ranges, a big focus this winter has been to develop game-based awareness and develop as competitors making sure we are prepared for the summer season. It is exciting to have an U8 team in the Yorkshire League for the first time, as well as a team in the U16 Leeds League again. It is also great to have many of the players within the programme competing for various other clubs in other age groups. The summer will see lots of friendly matches as well as internal tournaments for all ages.



## Junior Competitors

Well done to Maddie, Lois and Lily for representing the club brilliantly recently at a team tournament at Bradford Grammar School.

Well done to Freddie Clark for competing in a red ball LTA Youth tournament at Barnsley Tennis Club.

# Action on the Courts



## EASTER COMPETITION

We kicked off the spring season in style with an Easter Tournament weekend for all ages on the 23rd-24th March.

Well done to everyone who took part, and especially to the following:

- Red Ball Winner: George Waring
- Orange Ball Winner: Austin Guy
- Green Ball Winner: Lois Perrin
- Yellow Ball Winner: Alice O'Boyle
- Adult's Winners: Karen and Mikey Spong
- Adult's Tournament Player's Player of the Day: Ellie Riley



# CAPTAINS UPDATE

From Stephen Guy & Karen Spong



We have been really busy as a club sending out even more teams to have fun, compete and build on the recent forays into various tennis leagues. The logistics in balancing 3 adult teams with all other activities is no mean feat and our thanks go to Nic Tweedy for assisting with this and her immense efforts with coaching. We are looking forward to drafting in our adolescent 'ringers' soon to the adult team. Mainly to watch in admiration as they return shots we have long since stopped running for!

Last season we competed in 3 summer leagues with great success. It was a pleasure to see so many members getting involved and for some enjoying competitive tennis for the first time.

**Leeds Mixed Summer League 2023:** Competing in this league was a first for Thorner. Matches were played to a high standard and gave our squad game experience with a final position of finishing 3rd behind Grove Hill and David Lloyd. Special mention to Nic who came first out of 101 players and Lauren Scales who was in the top ten.

**Leeds Mens Summer League 2023:** The men began their journey with some tough opposition from well-established larger clubs. Pleased to say that we have been promoted in our first season finishing a tight second to Almscliffe! We have a strength and depth in the squad now with many playing consistently 'off season' and we will push again for promotion. Of note we had 4 players in the top 10, performers; James Clubley being first of 86 players in the league and Messrs Guy, Boydell and Forsey being in the top 10.

We have a large squad of keen male players at the club and I look forwards to looking at entering into even more leagues next year (!), in particular outdoor winter tennis to try and keep the muscle memory going whilst wrapped up and trying not to slip.

**Barkston Ash Division 3 2023:** Once again the BA league gave us many enjoyable matches without too much pressure. Thank you to those who played, especially those who played for the first time. We aim to keep this league as a platform to get match experience and will be entering a team into the new format cup.

**Leeds Winter League:** During the winter our mixed doubles team have once again been playing at Beckett Park University. With a keen squad who regularly play through the winter and a desire to win, we have made steady progress and are hopeful for promotion into the second division. We are currently sitting 2nd with 1 more game to play. Go Thorner!

With thanks to Pete Boydell, we now have a men's ladder and hope to get a ladies ladder set up soon. Pete was also responsible for the 'Le Thornoi' tournament last year that culminated in an excellent social night organised by Lauren. Tremendous efforts went into these events and we are very thankful to have you two on board to drive these events forward.

If you are looking for a lower-pressure knock, we hope to arrange a few friendlies with our neighbouring clubs. As your captains we want to support anyone who is keen to get involved, so please don't hesitate to get in touch if you want to play. We are keen for players of all standards to step up and be heard.

Stephen & Karen

# Thorner Tennis COACHES SPOTLIGHT

## NEW SESSIONS COMING SOON!

This summer term will see the introduction of two new sessions to our adult coaching programme. Cardio and walking tennis. Please contact Nic Tweedy to register your interest.



**CARDIO  
TENNIS**

Coming to your local tennis club on a Friday morning

Sociable  
Fun Fitness  
All ages and levels Music  
Open to members & non members  
Babies in buggies welcome at the side of the court

Register your interest by contacting  
[n.tweedy97@gmail.com](mailto:n.tweedy97@gmail.com)



New to tennis?  
Returning from an injury?  
Love tennis but looking for a gentler pace of play?

Register your interest by contacting  
[n.tweedy97@gmail.com](mailto:n.tweedy97@gmail.com)

Try out **WALKING TENNIS** at  
**Thorner Tennis Club**

Two bounces allowed  
Social Fun



## SUMMER CAMPS

After all the fun we had at the summer camps last year, we are excited to be publishing this summer's dates later this month. At Thorner Tennis Club, our summer holiday camps create an environment for children of all ages and abilities to learn and develop their tennis skills in a social, fun, game based manner. Both half day and full day options are available and there is a 10% discount for members. Membership is NOT required. If you'd like to register your interest in the meantime please get in touch

# SAFEGUARDING UPDATE



## Survey Findings

Many thanks to everyone who completed the safeguarding survey for which there was an excellent response. All your comments have been noted and they are already helping to shape and improve our safeguarding practices.

We are pleased to announce that as a club we have met with the LTA's safeguarding practices and will remain committed to prioritising the wellbeing of all children and adults at risk, promoting safeguarding in our club at all times, including all coaching, programmes and events we run.

We have a number of safeguarding policies which strive to minimise risk, deliver a positive tennis experience for everyone and respond appropriately to all safeguarding concerns/disclosures.

To raise awareness of this important matter there will be reminder sent to all tennis members on an annual basis along with a welcome pack to all new members.

As part of the safeguarding assessment, we were asked to review the age limit for unaccompanied children using the tennis courts and the committee wish to advise that **any children under the age of 14 must be supervised by an adult at all times.**

Please see below a link to the website detailing the safeguarding information for Thorner Tennis Club:  
<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/ThornerVictoryHallTennisClub/Safeguarding>

If you wish to report anything direct to the LTA then please use this link.  
<https://safeguardingconcern.lta.org.uk/>

Please also find a link below to the LTA Safe To Play Campaign.  
<https://www.safetoplaytennis.co.uk/>

## Thorner Tennis Club Safeguarding Contacts:

The welfare of all our members is of the utmost importance to the Club.

Our Welfare Officer is Helen Rafferty and our Safeguarding Lead is Linsey MacLeod.

They can be contacted confidentially via the following email:  
[thornertennissafeguarding@gmail.com](mailto:thornertennissafeguarding@gmail.com)

If you believe a child or adult to be at immediate risk, the police should be contacted immediately by calling 999.

If there is not any immediate danger, any concerns of wellbeing should be reported by using this email above. This is for both children and adults to be aware of.

# Spring Coaching

Thorner Tennis Club is proud to provide a comprehensive coaching programme for both adults and juniors led by Head Coach, Nicola Tweedy.

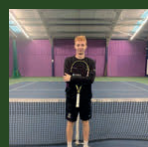
Private Coaching is available on an individual or small group basis.

If you would like to make an enquiry or receive any further information, please contact Nicola Tweedy on 07827 686368 or [n.tweedy97@gmail.com](mailto:n.tweedy97@gmail.com)

## Meet the Coaches



**Nic Tweedy Head Coach**  
LTA Level 3 Accredited+  
Nic is passionate about inspiring others to play tennis. She loves being on court, delivering a variety of sessions to help each individual achieve their goal, and passing on her enthusiasm for the game. Enjoyment of this lifelong sport is a fundamental of Nic's coaching, upon which she helps players to develop their technical and tactical understanding.



**Tom Horsfall – Assistant Coach**  
LTA Level 2  
Tom is a member of Leeds Beckett University Men's first team competing in the BUCS National Superleague. He is also the current Leeds Beckett Club Captain, which involves having a vital role in ensuring performance success in BUCS, as well as being engaged in increasing participation. Tom enjoys coaching a range of ages and abilities to help them improve and feel confident to compete.



### SPRING ADULT PROGRAMME

Monday 7.30–8.30pm Mixed Drills

Watch this space for Tuesday evening team training sessions!

Private lessons/hits available most days.

### SPRING JUNIOR PROGRAMME

Our programme at Thorner Tennis Club caters for all ages and abilities with the following sessions taking place weekly:

- Tots tennis (ages 3-4 yrs)
- Red Ball beginner – advanced (ages 4-7 yrs)
- Orange Ball (ages 7-9 yrs)
- Green Ball (ages 9-10 yrs)
- Yellow Ball beginner – advanced (ages 11+ yrs)
- Adults beginner – advanced
- 1-1 and small group lessons

Private lessons/hits available most days

### CLUB SESSIONS

**CLUB NIGHT**  
Thursdays  
6.30pm to 8.30pm

**CLUB MORNING**  
Sundays 10am

# Thorner Tennis CLUB NEWS

IT'S TIME TO  
RENEW YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP!

## Annual Subscriptions for the 2024 - 2025 season are now due

To renew please visit:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfOy3Mf0Qbv69QIP5inDcJRSfXNR4bOpCcPElbZi8CIZgz-ug/viewform>

Subs are due from April 1st and a 10% discount is available for payments made before April 20th. The code for the courts will change on April 5th and will be sent to members on payment of subs

Junior £40

Intermediate £50

Adult £90

Couple £180

Family £240

The money you pay in subscriptions goes towards the upkeep and maintenance of the courts, clubhouse, grounds and all fees, rent and utilities.

This include the annual treatment and cleaning of the courts, weekly cleaning of the club facilities, purchase of tennis balls, regular painting and landscape upkeep, annual liability insurance, league fees, Victory Hall ground rent, providing sustenance for social events and costs of running and maintaining the floodlights for winter and evening play.

Alongside this are the large singular payments such as the purchase of the Slinger ball machine for members and replacement of the fence damaged in the high winds at a cost of £2500.

Your subscriptions are separate to the fees you pay for coaching, and enable us to keep the club up to a standard that all want to use.

## AGM UPDATE

The Club AGM took place on the 4.3.24. Thank you to all those who attended. Full minutes were circulated to all members but are also available on request from [lauren\\_scales@outlook.com](mailto:lauren_scales@outlook.com)



## ANYONE FOR COFFEE?

A gentle reminder to all members that the tea and coffee facilities operate on an honesty bar basis unless an event is taking place. The tin for payment can be found in the kitchen drawer.



Please help yourself and enjoy!



## CLUB NIGHT

Please note that following member feedback Thursday night club night will now run from 6.30pm - 8.30pm!

Roll on summer evenings on court!



## THORNER SCHOOL

We were delighted to announce the children of Thorner School will once again visit the club for a tennis taster session for every year group! Date TBC

A great day was had by all with over 180 pupils in attendance at the 2023 session and we can't wait to welcome the school again in 2024!





Thorner Tennis Club

# GENERAL INFORMATION



**SUMMER PARTY AND  
FUN DAY  
EARLY SEPTEMBER  
DATE TBC**

**More details to  
follow once a date  
has been agreed  
with the Victory  
Hall.**

## Thorner Tennis Committee

Lifetime President – Shirley Berrow

Chair – Adrian Joyce

Secretary – Lauren Scales

Treasurer – Georgi Sinclair

Committee Member – Alastair Foster

Safeguarding – Linsey MacLeod

Health and Safety – Helen Rafferty

Head Coach – Nic Tweedy

Mens Captain – Stephen Guy

Ladies Captain – Karen Spong

## Key Contact Details

For any further information, please contact the club treasurer Georgi Sinclair on (0113) 2892320 or email [thornertennis@gmail.com](mailto:thornertennis@gmail.com).

Don't forget to follow us on:



thorner\_tennis



Thorner Tennis Club