

Newsletter December 2020



A few words from the President



Hi WoSP members

Firstly, I hope you are all staying safe during these challenging times, and like me, counting the days until some sense of normality can be restored. In terms of the club, indications are very good that our club will be able to fully re-open soon, however for the time being **only 2 households can play doubles, the junior coaching can continue and we are permitted to play singles**. Stuart Lyon posted on the club announcement Whatsapp group a few new measures that the club have implemented and we respectfully request you observe and adhere to these new measures for the safety and protection of all our members and guests. We have this week enhanced our COVID safety practices and a rota has been drawn up for volunteers to pop in and carry out a wipe down cleaning schedule. This rota is covered in the main by our committee and we would really appreciate your support if you are able to give us a hand? If you can help, please contact Stu in the first instance.

The Singles Competition (December)

We received an incredible 33 entries for the December Singles competition, which underlines how enthusiastic our club is to get back on court playing again. The groups and fixtures have been circulated and several of the 96 fixtures are being scheduled. Good luck to all in their respective groups and may the best man or lady win.

AGM

With the current COVID restrictions, the committee reluctantly agreed that it would be far more practical to defer the AGM until it was safe to do so. In due course we will distribute by email to all members, a copy of the minutes from last year's AGM and our club annual accounts, and of course a date and venue to host the AGM as soon as government regulations allow. In the meantime, be assured your committee have worked extremely hard and used the lockdown period to transform our club. I would hope by now most, if not all our membership, has seen first-hand the variety of improvements that were made.

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Club Lease

The club lease has been drawn up, and ready for assignment, so this extends our tenancy at our facility for a further 5 years, with options to extend beyond that. Our thanks go to Alistair Green (Taylor Henderson) for kindly checking the terms of the lease and steering our committee on our obligations under the lease terms. Alistair very generously did this free of charge.

Memberships and Junior Coaching

Despite COVID restrictions we very successfully embarked on our junior coaching programme, the 'Junior Padelistas', which was part funded by the National Lottery Awards for All. This has been running throughout Oct-Dec and proven to be extremely popular with a regular 12 of the older group and 10 of the tots. Maybe Scotland can produce a World Padel Tour player one day, and perhaps their first tentative moments with a 'pala' were at West of Scotland Padel.

You may recall in April the committee took a decision to temporarily reduce membership rates, and to introduce alternative membership packages. The concept was basically twofold; one was to reduce membership subscriptions to reflect interruption to club access, and secondly to attract more members in our quest for sustainability. I am delighted to advise our membership has now grown to 53 club members (all categories). Some of these new members have joined us as a result of an introduction by you. Our 'Introduce a New Member' incentive gives existing members a free month subscription should the new member stay for 6 months. Thanks to those of you who have helped us spread the word.....it's definitely working! A big welcome to our new members, it's great to have you on board!

Christmas buying – Smile Amazon

We recently let you know about the Smile Amazon campaign. This allows you to order your amazon purchases with Amazon but going through the Smile Amazon webpage instead (it doesn't look any different). You'll be asked once to nominate a charity of your choice, and of course we'd hope you'd chose us, and we would then receive a small cashback for the club. Here's the [link](#) should you wish to sign up..... #everylittlehelps.



A note of thanks

As ever, my thanks to our very hard-working committee. I am sure it is recognised the collective effort that has gone into the last 6 months or so to get to where the club it is now. It is never lost on me that our committee give their time free, willingly and with an abundance of enthusiasm that without...well quite frankly we would not have a club at all. My thanks to you all, and a special shout out to Stuart Lyon, our Welfare/Covid Officer, who in reality is so much more and, has just this week, completed a LTA Safeguarding refresher course and continuing to keep us all safe

We hope you've enjoyed this newsletter as we countdown to the end of this awful year and we wish you all the best possible Christmas and New Year!!

