



# West Surrey Tennis Club newsletter

July 2023



## WELCOME

Greetings, and welcome to our Summer newsletter

I want to express my gratitude to Louise, our former chairperson, for her exceptional commitment and hard work. She led the club through difficult times, such as the pandemic and court surface changes, and her contributions have helped our tennis club grow and succeed.



As the newly appointed Chair, I am still new to the club, but my love for tennis and this wonderful community is boundless. I am dedicated to improving our club with your valuable support.

Let's take a moment to celebrate the recent success of our summer finals. Congratulations to all the winners and a special shoutout to all the members who participated in the tournament. Thanks to the incredible support from our cheering spectators, the finals day was a resounding success.

In order to stay informed about upcoming events, I encourage you to regularly check the **"Diary of Events" section on our website.**

Also, don't forget that we have the beloved social tennis and BBQs every Friday throughout the summer. If you haven't had the chance to join us, I highly recommend taking part. It's an opportunity to play tennis and a fantastic way to connect with fellow members. **Find out more here.**

I just wanted to say a huge thank you to Priscilla Sitwell for the beautiful flower pots around the club. And also, a big thank you to Nicola Slynn for taking care of the flower border.



I hope you all have a delightful summer with plenty of tennis! ■

**Kaori Morris, WSTC Chair**

## COURT ETIQUETTE

This is just a gentle reminder.

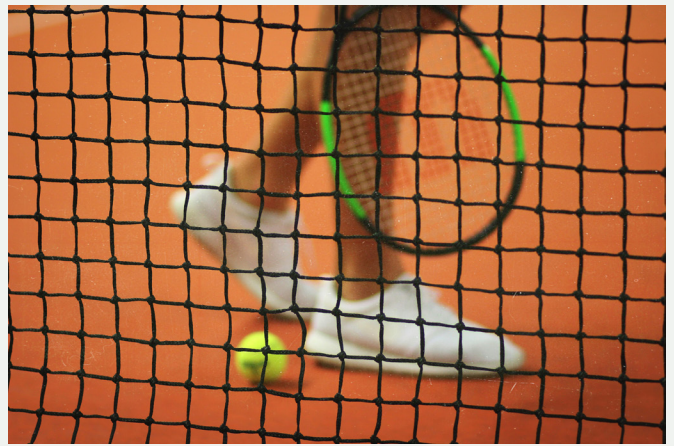
- Make sure to allow at least five minutes before the end of your session to clean up the court for the next booking.
- Use a drag mat to redistribute the sand on the court. Drag the sand from the perimeter back into the play area to make sure that the sand is evenly distributed.
- Don't forget to sweep not only the play area but also outside of the play area too. ■

## GUESTS

All guests must be signed in by a WSTC member and the fee paid before play.

Payment instructions are displayed in the clubhouse.

**Fees: 16+ £5 per visit / junior (15 and under) £2 per visit** ■



## LANDSCAPE PROJECT AND COURTS UPDATE

Nearly there! After many delays with contractors and rain we finally completed the raised bed behind the new patio. After stretching the budget to the limit by using very cheap tennis club labour (many thanks Kaori and Priscilla). We now have some very nice shrubs and some colourful summer flowers. We also installed an automatic irrigation system during the hot weather and it seems to have rained every day since, a pure coincidence I'm sure. The risk to the plants has now shifted from being baked to being drowned.

With the remaining few pence in the budget we hope to tidy up and replant the raised bed by the entrance and to plant some shrubs as a screen behind the new patio and border.

In other news, the court nets are looking a little tired after several years of abuse (i.e. having balls whacked into them). We have asked the golf club for funds from our maintenance budget to replace the Court 1 net and the others if possible.

We recently ordered new benches for the courts. What arrived were six large boxes crammed full of plastic parts and 240 nuts bolts and washers, making Ikea's assembly projects look like child's play. Somehow we transformed these into the lovely green benches you now see on the courts.

Over the next few days we plan to install green mesh netting behind the wire fencing around the courts where the hedges are, so the rear of courts 1, 2 and 3 and alongside court 1. This will hopefully keep the hedge clippings and other debris from falling onto the courts and then mixing with the court sand, which is tedious to separate.

Finally a word of thanks to our member Paul Taylor South, who diligently keeps an eye on the courts and keeps them in good shape for everyone to enjoy. ■

## DOUBLES BOX LEAGUES LAUNCHED

The singles box league has proved very popular and comes with the bonus of being self-managed online. At the end of July, we plan to launch a doubles box league operated in the same way.

If you would like to enter, simply find/choose a partner and apply using this link:

**[ENTER DOUBLES BOX LEAGUE](#)**

All playing standards are welcome as pairs will be grouped at a similar level initially. ■



## TABLE TENNIS TABLE

Exciting news! We will soon be getting a table tennis table. It will be an outdoor table, conveniently foldable and stored in the clubhouse. This addition will provide great fun for social occasions and allow for enjoyable roll-ups while waiting for your turn to play.

To ensure fair usage, please note that the table tennis table should not be used during ongoing matches. If courts 2 and 3 are occupied, kindly ask for permission from the players before using the table. We will display the official rules on the notice board once the table is available. ■

## WSTC SUMMER TOURNAMENT

### Ladies singles

Mel Redman played Emily Woodhouse which was a re-run of 2021 final. Emily got off to a very good start mixing up her shots to great effect and took the first set convincingly. Mel was slow to get into her groove but re-set for the second set, which proved to be highly contested set of extremely entertaining tennis. Mel came through to level the match to 1-1. After a brief cooling down break both ladies were back on court with Mel managing to hold her nerve and come through. What a great match which was really enjoyed by all the spectators – well done ladies.



### Ladies doubles

Always a pleasure to watch and this year is no exception. Mel & Christine Bell were up against Emily Woodhouse & Emily Chen, they were certainly double trouble as they proved to be too strong for their opponents. Congratulations to all.



### Men's singles

James Vickers won the men's singles title in an entertaining final against Andy Horne. James raced to a 5-0 lead in the first set before Andy fought back to win the next four games. James managed to close out the first set 6-4 and won the second 6-0. Well played both for a great tournament.



### Men's doubles

Duncan Foster & Olly Watson claimed the men's doubles trophy defeating Peter Jackson & Tom Campbell 7-5, 6-2. A great match with some excellent doubles play on show – congratulations to all.



## WSTC SUMMER TOURNAMENT

### Mixed doubles

The mixed doubles was a closely fought match between Julie Smith & Paul Dudley and Jo Pearce & Duncan Woolston. In warm sunshine and sometimes blustery wind Julie & Paul won the first set with Jo & Duncan fighting back the claim the second. The final set went to the wire with both teams serving for the title – Paul & Julie sealed the win 7-5. A fantastic match to close finals day for 2023.



### Juniors

We had a great Junior Finals Day alongside the senior finals on 25 June.

There was some excellent tennis, including a very well contested Under 9 boys Final between Arty Ryan and Louis Rivet.

Congratulations to all our winners, including Rosie Kirby and Ali Talbot who won the Under 18 girls and boys singles respectively for the 2nd year running.

U9 Girls Singles – A Moyce

U9 Boys Singles – A Ryan

U12 Girls Singles – A Rivet

U12 Boys Singles – S Evans

U15 Girls Singles – R Kirby

U15 Boys Singles – A Oldham

U18 Girls Singles – R Kirby

U18 Boys Singles – A Talbot

There will be a free Fun Day for children aged 10 to 16 from 2-5pm on **Tuesday 8 August**.

**Please contact me to book your place.**

**Mike Henry, Club Coach** ■

## VETS CHAMPIONSHIPS

### Doubles

In previous years it's proved difficult getting knockout rounds played in good time (if at all). So, this year we tried a different approach for both the doubles and singles.

All knockout rounds including the final were played in just under four hours followed a BBQ and prize-giving. Sixteen pairs entered with each pair playing one set comprising seven games with sudden death on the first deuce. Matches took approximately 25-30 minutes to complete, with successful pairs moving through to the next round to eventually reach the final.

After a very competitive final's match, Rich Crawford and Debra Boniface triumphed over Simon Heilpern and Antionette Fay to become 2023 VETS Doubles champs.



All in all it was a great day with all matches played under summer blue skies and glorious sunshine. Thank you to all who entered the event and those spectators who came along to support. A special thanks to Malcolm Dillon and Kaori Morris for helping behind the scenes.

### Singles

On 2 July the VETS Singles Championships took place using a similar format to the doubles day. Congratulations to Ian Simpkin who was crowned VETS Singles Champion 2023 after his win over defending champ Simon Heilpern.

Both players made steady Eddy progress through the knockout rounds to play in a closely fought three set final. The final was a Fast4 format (first to three sets with a championship tie-break at one set all). No handicap with normal scoring. Ian won 2-1(2-4,4-0,10-8). Thank you to all those who entered and supported the event. ■



## SOCIAL UPDATE

We have had a great run of Friday Night BBQs so far this summer. Do join in if you have a spare Friday evening – enjoy a game of social tennis followed by alfresco dinner with fellow members.

The Summer Finals Day was a very happy, well attended occasion. The sun shone (possibly a bit too much for the players!), the newly planted flower beds looked fantastic, the burgers rolled off the barbie, Pimms flowed, and everyone enjoyed watching some fantastic tennis.

We held a Family Tennis and BBQ on Sunday 9 July. It's always lovely to get the kids together for a bit of light-hearted social fun. The next one is on **Sunday 17 September**.

A big date for your diary is the forthcoming WSTC Charity Fun Day on **Sunday 1 October** where we will put together mixed teams and roll out a series of light-hearted games, good humoured forfeits, handicaps and much general reverie, all while raising funds for charity.

Also on the horizon is a fun dinner night, Fish & Chip Fridays will also get underway again, and a charity Bridge lunch event. ■

## DATES FOR YOU DIARIES

### September

Sunday 17 September – Family Tennis & BBQ, 3-5pm

### October

Sunday 1 October – The WSTC Charity Fun Day 11am-3pm

Friday 13 October – Fish & Chip Night 7.30pm

### November

Friday 3 November – Charity Bridge & Lunch, 10am-3pm

Saturday 18 November – Fun Dinner Night at the Golf Club 7pm

## FOLLOW WSTC ON INSTAGRAM

[Click here to follow WSTC.](#)

