



PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER – MAY 2021

When I was elected to the post of President last month, I said that I would aim to send members a monthly round-up of news and events. So, with my sincere thanks to all who have rejoined us this year, and a heartfelt welcome to new members, here is the May issue.

I am delighted to see the tennis courts being well used and the sun coming out to make the world a better place as we exit from the Covid lockdown. On 17th May squash and racketball will be back to bubbles which is where you can play within a group of 6 players and on the 21st of June back to full playing with no restrictions. The squash courts are already unlocked for play within your household or for solo practice.

BAR TO RE-OPEN ON MAY 17: Your new Bar & Social Committee under Della Weston has been working hard to prepare for the re-opening of the bar on May 17th which will mark the next stage of the return to normality. Water dispensers will be working again from that date but meanwhile water is available from the outside tap by the squash courts. We are actively looking at putting a new EPOS system into the bar and engaging bar staff to make the clubhouse the place to relax after playing and become the social centre of the club again.

NEXT EVENTS: We have a number of exciting events planned for members when we are able to open the clubhouse fully again, including draw evenings, a quiz night, music events and other entertainments. The next major planned event will be President's Day on June 27. I will send out details in due course but please put this fun event in your diaries now.

"FOBBING IN": Although there are still some restrictions on opening the club now, we still need everyone to register their arrival at the club by using their key fobs whether or not you plan to go into the clubhouse itself, particularly for social tennis. This is the only accurate record we have of attendees and we need to keep such records per the LTA guidance.

BOOKIT (court booking system): I am delighted that Andrew Thompson has volunteered to take over from Tony Lucas as the main point of contact with the supplier and he will also work with Sally-Ann to take on member queries. Tony will still be involved whilst Andrew gets to grips with the finer points of the system. If members have any queries, please email bookit@kdrc.info which will be picked up by Andrew, Sally-Ann or Tony.

BALLS: The new committee has taken the decision to provide tennis balls for both matches and social tennis. It has been one of the club's key differences to other clubs and it is felt important to retain this distinction. Although members are required to continue to use their

own balls for general play while the clubhouse is closed, they will be provided as in the past from May 17th onwards.

SINGLES: Please remember to select “Singles 1” and “Singles 2” as your third and fourth players if you are playing singles on courts 1-7 otherwise the court will be automatically cancelled 24 hours before it is due to start.

CLUB MATCHES: We have resumed a number of matches and started with a flourish with the Men’s 1st team winning 4-0 v Sutton Coldfield; the 3rd team winning 3-1 v West Warwicks and drawing 2-2 v Streetly. The 5th team also had good 4-0 wins v Kings Heath, Edgbaston Archery and Sutton Coldfield.

Not to be outdone, the Minis and Juniors have had an excellent start to the season in the LTA National League Summer 2021 with the 16 & Under Boys and 11 & Under Boys (Yellow) both winning 2-1 v Solihull Arden; the 10 & Under team winning 10-2 v Hall Green; the 9 & Under Orange team winning both their matches 10-0 against West Warwicks and Beechcroft; and the 8 & Under Red team beating Four Oaks 16-0. The 12 & Under Girls Yellow team have yet to get off the mark having lost 0-3 to Rugby. Well done to you all!



SPONSORSHIP: We are looking to restart our sponsorship programme. We expect that a club like ours with an enviable reputation in the local area and wider tennis communities will be attractive to sponsors. Our history, location and members help make us a well-respected organisation.

If anyone would like to join the sponsorship team, this is a great opportunity to get involved in promoting the club to a wider community. I am potentially looking for a wordsmith and

graphic designer, a salesperson and a liaison officer to join me in this exciting programme. Please get in touch with me if this appeals to you as we have already been approached by a number of businesses keen to embrace partnership opportunities to help take us forward.

FAREWELL: It is sad to report the passing of Henry Jerwood last week. Henry was men's captain from 1992 to 1995 and ran numerous President's Day tournaments. A great left hander who moved around the court with surprising ease for such a tall man. He will be greatly missed and his family are in our thoughts and prayers. Funeral arrangements will be forwarded when known.

Steve Williams

May 2021