



PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2022

Welcome to the June update from KDRC. We were very fortunate with the weather in May, allowing an almost uninterrupted month of tennis. This has been reflected in the bar takings too, although these have also seen a healthy increase due to the excellent beers that Nick Cromie has been choosing for the bar. Birra Moretti has replaced Stella and has proved to be very popular, while the arrival of Timothy Taylor Landlord has delighted fans of real ale (myself included). In fact, we have heard of envious noises coming from the cricket club. With other quality beers such as Jubilee and Top Dog, I recommend members spend some time in the bar, especially those who have not tried it lately – it really is becoming a good venue. We are also investigating the introduction of a coffee machine which would be available in the clubhouse at all times to encourage more use of the facilities.

MONTHLY REVIEW: One of the highlights of May was Nick's quiz night on 20th May. While the President has taken it on himself to organise these in the past, he was unable to attend this event so Nick took it upon himself to go ahead with the quiz – and it proved very successful. With question rounds encompassing music and geography (the missing landmarks was apparently a real winner!), the good turnout had a very enjoyable evening. A Social subcommittee has now been recruited and the team is now looking for ideas for future events and any suggestions from members would be welcomed.

There was a successful Rusty Racquets Social Afternoon on Sunday 29th May with a number of regular social players helping out and enabling us to run four courts for an hour. Over the two sessions to date, we have had an encouraging number of people turn up and there is now a Whatsapp group set up to encourage further participation. We will discuss with the coaches how to move this forward with a possible structured coaching session leading into the regular Saturday and Tuesday Socials.

SPONSORS: I am delighted to report that the Butcher's Social (formerly The Forest Hotel) has agreed a major sponsorship package with the club and will become the club's official hospitality partner. In addition to a banner being displayed on Court 2, which is currently vacant, there will be branding on our website and they will promote specific events at the Butcher's Social, including Christmas, for members. They are also open to the idea of providing external catering for specific club events.

TOURNAMENT PAYMENTS: The Annual Tournaments are now under way with the Finals Day on July 2nd. While the number of entrants is lower this year, the tournament is progressing

well. Your committee has decided that the most efficient way of paying the entry fees is over the bar rather than adding it to your subscription invoice at the end of the year. A list of entrants to the tournaments is now behind the bar and we would ask entrants to let the bar staff know which entries they are paying for (£3 per tournament) so that they can be crossed off the list. The entry fees will be used to provide tournament prizes including club shirts or bar credits of equivalent value.

CLUB POSITIONS: I am also delighted to welcome Kate Cromie and Linda Lucas to our roster of important club roles. Kate has kindly offered to take on the position of Welfare Officer from Cara Bowley, while Linda has offered to run the 200 Club in place of Mary Baird. We are very grateful to both Mary and Cara for their help in the past.

Mary deserves our particular thanks as she has been looking after the 200 Club for many years. The K&D 200 Club raises funds for the club and pays out monthly cash prizes as well as a Star Prize in June and a Festive Prize in December. Members are reminded that one unit in the 200 Club costs £12 per year (only £1 per month!) and you are welcome to buy multiple units. The current monthly prizes are £40 (1st prize) and £25 (2nd prize) as well as a Star prize of £400 every June and a Festive prize of £250 in December each year. Winners are notified by email and names are listed on the notice board in the main clubhouse. At least 50% of all income is paid out in prizes and last year the 200 Club contributed almost £1,000 to club funds as well as paying out £1,400 in prizes.

We always welcome new members and we are looking at introducing a monthly draw night at the club. If anyone would like to join the 200 Club and help the club as well as possibly winning some significant cash prizes, please contact knowledorridge200club@gmail.com for details.

BAR VOLUNTEERS: We are fortunate that we now have some excellent bar staff in place, ably marshalled by Gemma. However, there are occasional times when there is a staff shortage due to sickness or other unforeseen events. We are keen to draw up a list of members who would be willing to stand in to keep the bar open should such an event arise. If you would be willing to add your name to the list, please contact Nick at nick_cromie@yahoo.co.uk. Your help would be much appreciated.

TENNIS COURT UPDATES: As mentioned in my newsletter in April, the suppliers of the lights on courts 5 and 6 visited to undertake a light survey last month. The report is that the light readings are in accordance with the designs and initial installation. While some glare was noted, it is in line with expectations as per the plans. If members are still unhappy with the glare, the light intensity can be reduced but this could be to the detriment of the light on the majority of the surface.

TEMPORARY SUMMER MEMBERSHIPS: Please note that we are again offering temporary memberships for both tennis and squash/racketball. KDRC is prepared to offer a 3- month membership subscription on the following terms: senior tennis £30 per month, intermediate tennis £14 per month and Junior tennis £10.75 per month (a guardian member will also be

required for juniors at a cost of £3.50 per month). For squash and racketball, the subscriptions would be £20, £9.10 and £7.15 per month respectively, although this will only be on offer for 3 months from June. In addition, a £10 payment for a fob will be required which would be refunded if the fob is returned to the club administrator in working order. Full booking rights would apply. Anyone wishing to take up these offers should contact Suzanne Weatherhead at membership@kdrc.info.

ALARM: With the alarm still going off quite often we must again remind members not to open the patio doors without first turning the alarm off. There is a new alarm keypad adjacent to the left-hand patio door which enables both patio doors to be alarmed/unarmed without affecting the bar and cellar alarm. In order to set and unset the patio doors the code for the pad is X1666. Please note that the buttons need pressing firmly, but slowly.

CAR PARK WATER LEAK: The sharp-eyed will have noted that there appears to be a water leak in the car park close to the rear doors to the club. We are fully aware of this and Severn Trent Water is expected to carry out an inspection on Monday 13 June. We would appreciate it if this area could be kept clear of cars in the afternoon from 1pm for the inspection to take place.

FUTURE EVENTS: Please put the following events in your diaries.

Saturday July 2 – **TENNIS FINALS DAY.** As well as watching (or playing) tennis, Finals Day is a day for socialising and enjoying the club's facilities. We hope as many members will come along for what is hoped to be a great afternoon.

July 16/17 – **LTA BIG TENNIS WEEKEND.** This is an Open Day organised by the coaches. Further details in due course.

Sunday July 24 – **PRESIDENT'S DAY.** A fun tennis tournament with the President also providing a delicious tea for players and invited guests. All players welcome.

FINALLY: Can I remind all members to book courts before they come to the club and to fob in when they arrive, even if they are not planning to go inside the clubhouse? This is important as we need to keep a record of court usage, both for the LTA and also in case we wish to offer court times to third parties such as schools. We do not want to use those court times that are busy or most popular with our members. If members do not fob in there is a risk that the system will mark them as 'no shows' and cancel their booking rights.

Now that President's Day is on the horizon, it feels like summer is almost here and I wish all our members a warm and happy season of sport.

Steve Williams

June 2022