

# Greenwood Park LTC

## Spring 2018 Newsletter

### From the Committee



Greetings to you all and welcome to a New Year and New Season at Greenwood Park.

With the new Club House virtually complete and with plans for the resurfacing of the Kids Zone and Courts 4 and 5 well under way, the Club is in really good shape to enjoy a great season of Tennis in 2018/19. Although there isn't an appointed Chairperson or Vice Chair, the club is currently being run, on your behalf, by a management team who are working together to ensure we maintain a vibrant, active and friendly club with good quality facilities.

The success of the club depends on the support of the membership, and with opportunities to play in Social Sessions, Club tournaments, Team tennis, Coaching Sessions as well as a full programme of Social Events, there are plenty of opportunities to get involved and enjoy the full benefits of being a member. Its your club – so come and use it.

Memberships renewals are due at the beginning of April and full details including subscription rates can be found on Page 3. Don't forget that there is the opportunity to get a discount if you are signed up by the 1st April, and any new members joining now get March for free.

On behalf of the committee we wish you a very enjoyable season and look forward to seeing you all enjoying the club facilities and activities.

#### START OF THE SEASON LUNCH

15TH APR - FROM 12:30

Begin the season in style and join in the "Start of the Season" Lunch. All welcome to come and eat, drink and play some tennis !

#### Spring Events (details Page 2)

March	Curry Night
April	Start of the Season Lunch, Wimbledon Ballot, Club Competitions Finals Day
May	Road to Wimbledon U 14s tournament, "Great British Tennis Weekend" - Open day Quiz night

### Also in this Issue

- [Membership Alert](#)
- [Wimbledon Ballot](#)
- [Committee Members](#)
- [Coaching News](#)
- [Social Tennis](#)
- [Club Tournaments](#)
- [Social Calendar](#)
- [Facilities](#)
- [Match Secretary's Report](#)

# 2018/19- Social Events and Club Activities



## Club Open Day—2018



**Saturday May 12th  
1:00 3.00pm**

*Everyone is welcome to the Open Day—Free Junior and Adult Coaching.*



## CURRY NIGHT

A popular event—enjoy a great curry and a good ‘social’ on a Tuesday evening.  
Everyone most welcome—let Gill or Norman know if you are interested

## Wimbledon Ballot

**Wed 18th April  
7:30 Prompt in  
the Club House**

Date	Event	Time	Contact
w/c 12 <sup>th</sup> Mar	“Kids Zone” carpet laying begins	n/a	Dave Thompson
Tue 27 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Winter “Curry” night (venue TBA) -	7.30pm for 8.00pm	Gill Ewing
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Start of season lunch & social tennis	From 12.30pm	G.E / P.S / L.M
w/c 16 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Carpet laying begins on hard courts	n/a	Dave Thompson
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Wimbledon ticket ballot *** Prompt start ****	7.30pm	Laurie Cheney
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> Apr	Winter mixed doubles / Vets. singles finals day (2017 /18)	TBC	L. Marshall / J. Drayton
Sat 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Road to Wimbledon U 14s tournament	1.30 pm	Sam Pink
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> May	“Great British Tennis Weekend” - Open day	1.00 – 3.00pm	Sam Pink
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Quiz night	7.30 – 11.00pm	Liz mann
Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jun	Sunday social tennis - American tournament	10.00- 12.30	Dave Skinner
Sat 16 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Ladies social tennis - Charity event	1.00pm – 4.00pm	Gill Ewing
Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Parent & Child tournament	1.30pm	Sam Pink
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> Jul	Sunday social tennis - American tournament	10.00 am – 12.30	David Thompson
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Wimbledon Men’s Final – live on T.V. Plus, Pimm’s O’clock!!	1.30pm	TBC
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Sunday social tennis - American tournament	10.00- 12.30	Norman Ewing
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sep	Sunday social tennis - American tournament	10.00- 12.30	TBC
Sun 9 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Adult Summer mixed doubles (Partners drawn on the day)	10.00- 12.30	L. Marshall / J. Drayton
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Adult Club Championships finals day..... with BBQ	TBC	L.M /J.D /C. Sanderson
Sun 30 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Junior finals day	12.00pm	Sam Pink
Tue 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	A.G.M.	7.30pm	Barbara Saunders
Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Club Christmas party & dance (adults)	TBC	Tina Fisher
Thu 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Adult social tennis - Christmas fun night	7.00pm	Sam Pink /G. Ewing
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Kids Christmas party	TBC	Sam Pink
2019			
28 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Winter mixed doubles / Vets. singles finals day (2018 /19)	TBC	L. Marshall / J. Drayton



## Membership Alert

Carol Brazier, Membership Secretary

Let your friends and family know that March is free for any New Members who join now before the 2018 Season starts in April.

All memberships are up for renewal at the beginning of April, with a discounted rate if you renew before 1st April. If you have a friend and they join on our Club Open Day on Saturday 12th May, they will also get the same great discounted price!

This year the membership process will be streamlined using the LTA-backed ClubSpark website and you will be able to renew the membership and actually pay for it online in one process. The new process uses a single one-off Direct Debit to transfer your membership fees to the GPLTC bank account using a reputable Financial Conduct Authority approved payment processing company. This saves you needing to renew via Clubspark, then arrange a separate bank transfer or cheque to complete the membership process.

While Direct Debit is usually associated with regular and recurring payments, it can also be used for one-off payments. You will soon receive an e-mail containing renewal instructions, so please wait for this reminder and follow the instructions to benefit from the renewal rate.

As usual I would like to encourage you all to tell your friends, neighbours, work colleagues etc. about our club – we are still the best value in St Albans with great and improved facilities, plenty of teams, social tennis and a coach who is keen to make tennis in Greenwood Park a must for the local community.

Information about joining the tennis club and the various types of membership is on our website [www.greenwoodtennis.com](http://www.greenwoodtennis.com). Any potential members are welcome to attend a social session free of charge to try us out.

## New Subscription rates for 2018

The membership rates for 2018-2019 for all categories are:

*Still the Best Value Club in  
St Albans !!*

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	RENEWAL RATE* only if paid by 01/04/18	FULL RATE
Family	£308	£340
Adult	£140	£150
Senior (60+)	£130	£140
Full-time student (18-23)	£66	£74
Teen (12-17)	£66	£74
Junior (9-11)	£34	£37
Teen (sibling)	£34	£37
Junior (sibling)	£17	£19
Kidzone (up to age 8)	£12	£12
Social	£25	£25
* Renewal rate applies to existing members only – monies must be received by 1/04/18 or the full rate will apply		



# Coaching News

Sam Pink

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## What a start to 2018!

Is it me or has this year started with a strange sense of Deja Vu? Federer wins the Australian Open, two years in a row, taking his singles Grand Slam total to 20, the first, male tennis player to do it, although he's still 3 behind Serena Williams and 4 behind Margaret Court.

Margaret Court also holds the record for the most Grand Slam titles over Singles 24, Doubles 19 and Mixed Doubles 21, totaling 64. It seems unlikely Roger Federer will match that, although Serena Williams, currently on 39 total Grand Slam titles, could have a chance.

Serena returned to action five and a half months after giving birth and although pulling out of the Australian Open seems likely to take part in the remaining Grand Slams of the year, an incredible achievement if it happens.

As tennis players and fans we are living in a truly Golden Age of tennis. In Comic Books the Golden Age saw the rise of the Superhero, Superman and Wonder Woman reigned, with incredible feats of strength and skill, using the super powers they possessed.

There have been past Champions who possessed incredible almost superhuman powers on the tennis court; Borg, Graf, Sampras, Navratilova, Agassi, Sanchez Vicario, but none seem to have truly dominated tennis in the way Federer and Williams have. (Federer at a time when he had to watch Super humans such as Nadal, Djokovic and Murray take centre stage for a while, before returning).

Few of the above have been seemingly written off, in the manner Federer & Williams have, to then return better and stronger, these two players epitomise the modern game of tennis' superheroes, our own

Superman and Wonder woman, Roger Federer & Serena Williams.

They have both been able to defy the passing of time and keep on getting better. For us mere mortals without super powers, is it too late to think we can keep improving? This is a topic that has appeared in this column before and the answer will always be no.



The game of tennis offers so many different ways to maximise talents old and new, which in our tennis past we may have never bothered to use: Venturing to the net, trying to hold a better court position when we are defending or as simple as trying to get one more ball in than the opposition, there is still plenty to learn.

This article may feel a bit like deja vu, but with something as good as the tennis being played in the modern game at the moment, is it that bad that it keeps on happening? If I'm honest I'm looking forward to another win for Nadal at the French Open and a

William's victory at Wimbledon and it goes without saying, if you hadn't already guessed, another win for Roger at Wimbledon. A Golden Age, A Golden Age!

See you on court, don't forget your capes!



## Match Secretary's Report

Dave Skinner, Match Secretary

"The spring/summer fixture season is fast approaching and the team selection lists will be on the notice board shortly for those wishing to play in teams, together with a list of team captains. Larger squads may be necessary this year to cater for the number of people wishing to play

For people relatively new to the game and for those who prefer less competitive matches there are the Mid Herts and Orchard Leagues.

For seasoned and competitive players there are the Watford and District League (3 set format) where we have 3 Mens, 2 Ladies and 1 Mixed team played on weekday evenings. In addition there is the Hot Racquets League (4 set format) where we have 2 Mens and 2 Ladies teams played at weekends.

I wish you all a very enjoyable tennis season.



## Club Tournaments

Jeanette and Lynn, Tournament Secretaries

"The Winter Mixed Doubles tournament is well underway and Finals Day is Sunday 22nd April 2018.

The Veterans Singles tournament has just begun and Finals Day is Sunday 22nd April 2018.

The Summer Mixed Doubles tournament will be held on **Sun 9<sup>th</sup> Sep**

The Adult Club Championships Finals Day will be held on **Sat 15<sup>th</sup> Sep**

The Junior Club Championships Finals Day will be held on **Sun 30<sup>th</sup> Sep**



## Social Tennis

David Thompson

### Social tennis

Adult members, of all levels, are very welcome to attend the club social tennis sessions on Sunday mornings and Thursday evenings. Attendance on Thursday evenings has been low over the winter, which is normal, and numbers will increase as the weather improves.

To avoid members turning up on a Thursday and having no one to play with; we have set up a WhatsApp group. If you want to be added to the group, please message David Thompson, or send a request to the Club's email address.

### American tournaments

This year, rather than running American Tournaments on the first Sunday of every month, we will be holding them on specific dates through the summer season. Please see the events calendar.

### Visitors

Members are reminded that accompanied guests are allowed to play at the club, on payment of a visitors' fee (£5 for adults, £2 for juniors). Please sign the visitors' book and place the fee in the jar in the clubhouse cupboard. Guests are permitted to play up to 4 times per year, but you may apply to the committee to have this limit waived, for people living out of the area.



# Facilities

David Thompson, Facilities

## Courts



The carpet courts have now been down for 4 years and most people like them. During social tennis events, we get complaints if members have to play more than one set on court 4!

Courts 4&5 have become very slippery in the wet and need to be resurfaced, so we have taken the decision to carpet them, to give us 5 identical courts. The Kidszone will also be carpeted. We hope to have the work completed by the end of April.

Although most work on the new clubhouse was completed in time for our Open Day last May, it has proved very difficult getting the builder to do the finishing touches and snagging. The main item outstanding, at the time of writing, is a security shutter over the bi-fold doors. We have delayed installing a TV until the shutters are fitted, but hope to have this in place soon.

The Parish Council have fitted a new clubhouse door, with a key in a key-safe. Any member over 18yrs of age may have the entry code - please ask a committee member.

## Honours Boards

We have installed new honours boards, which are more in keeping with the décor style of the refurbished clubhouse. There have been a couple of requests from members for the old boards with their names on. If anyone else wants to take a board, please help yourself.



## Table Tennis Table

The Table Tennis table is available for use by all fully paid up members of the club except when the club house is being used for other Tennis Club related events. (e.g social events, match teas, committee mtgs etc).



## Wimbledon Ballot

Laurie Cheney, Wimbledon Ballot



The draw for Wimbledon tickets will take place on Wednesday April 18th at 7:30pm (please be prompt) in the clubhouse. LTA rules require anyone entering the ballot to have an accurate and up to date British Tennis Member account plus they also need to have opted into the ballot by February 23rd so check your British Tennis details before the ballot date.



## Committee Members— 2018

Function	Member
Chairperson	Vacant
Vice Chairperson	Vacant
Club Secretary	Barbara Saunders
Treasurer	Rosemary Yates
Coach	Sam Pink
Membership Secretary	Carol Brazier
Social Secretary	Gill Ewing, Norman Ewing
Facilities Management	David Thomson, Gary Kerr
Match Secretary	Dave Skinner
IT / Clubspark	Gerard Bermingham
Tournament Secretaries	Lynne Marshall, Jeanette Drayton
News Letter / Parish Council Liaison	Dave Fudge
Website Master Key Holder Wimbledon Ballot	Laurie Cheney
Welfare Officer	Claire Montgomery
Clubhouse Restocking	Penny Skinner

*To contact the club or express interest in any event please use the following email address, clearly stating the subject and/or the appropriate committee member*

**[info@greenwoodtennis.com](mailto:info@greenwoodtennis.com)**

