

A message from the club Chairman

As anyone who has been to the clubhouse since the last AGM will have noticed we now have an honours board starting from 1980. I have been informed that there are spelling mistakes in some of the names. Sorry about that. All mistakes will be corrected the next time we update the board with the 2008 winners' details. As far as the Committee is concerned the only omissions now are details of winners etc. prior to 1980. If we do not receive any further details this year I will arrange for a small additional honours board for the details we have prior to 1980. This small honours board will be purchased at the same time we update the master honours board later this year.

The LTA are about to introduce a new scheme called Tennis ClubMark. Their wish/idea is to formalise the way Tennis Clubs are run so that their responsibilities are known and accepted. The LTA have issued a rather voluminous document of many pages as a guide. You will be pleased to know that PLTC had already covered as much as 90% plus of all LTA requirements. I have formulated a response/application in the form of a business plan that has been vetted by other members of the Committee.

This document/application form has now been handed to the LTA for comment. The major advantage of joining the LTA's new scheme is that grants will be easier to obtain if the club is accredited to this new scheme.

By the time you read this it is likely that some PLTC Suggestion Forms will be in the clubhouse as well as a Suggestion Form posting box. If you have any ideas/suggestions/comments on how to improve the Club please enter your comment on the supplied form. At regular intervals the post box will be emptied and all valid comments etc will be replied to.

In the clubhouse you will find some forms with the title, "Application for Membership to British Tennis". For a full description for what this application form is for please log onto www.LTA.org.uk/privacy. Very briefly the number of forms submitted by a Tennis Club will ultimately determine how many Wimbledon Tickets will be allocated to the Tennis Club.

Lastly let me wish everyone a healthy and prosperous New Year for 2008 and hope your tennis goes as well as you would wish.

Peter Cowey
Chairman PLTC

Club Members (and friends) Assistance Required

To keep the Tennis grounds and courts in good condition we are planning to have four days this year when we would like you to come and help. The three courts need to have sand brushed in and the garden area at the back of the courts to be kept tidy as well as the path around the clubhouse. If we look after the courts the playing surface will last longer as well of course as being a better surface to play on.

The Committee therefore ask you to come and help on Sundays, 2nd March, 27th April, 3rd August and 5th October, starting at 10.am. If a few members turn up the tasks should be completed in an hour or so. Please come and help, even if to supply teas and coffees for the workers.

John Cowley
Grounds Co-ordinator

Club Membership

As we start the process of renewing membership for our 289 players, I would like to mention a few points which needed clarification last year. Please do make contact or use the suggestions box in the Clubhouse if you have ideas for improving our system.

We, once again, offer a £5 discount if subscriptions are paid by the 29th February. This was popular last year. One or two people reported not receiving their renewal forms until after this date so if you hear of anyone wondering when the process started and clearly has not received their documents do ask them to make contact. If families wish to add new members please complete an extra application form for them. New Membership Application Forms can be posted on request or collected in the Clubhouse from the end of January. With regard to the information requested on the forms please note that the date of birth and school/college line refers only to students and juniors. If you do not wish a child to appear on Club photography please tick the box and sign on the line below. A clearly written email address is appreciated. Your membership cards, shoe tag and information sheets should be dispatched in April as soon as the match fixtures are finalised. As an encouragement to those wishing to join a change was made to the By-Laws earlier in the year allowing visitor fees to be refunded in the year of joining if membership is taken up. The exact text of the By-Law is shown on the Clubhouse wall. As part of our security system our key fobs are programmed with names of members so if any fobs are found and returned to me they can be identified and given back. Nick was delighted with the applications for the Club Tournament last year issued with the renewal notices so we are sending out the forms again. For those of you with youngsters we include a Policies and Procedures Code of Practice recommended by the LTA as part of its Tennis Clubmark initiative. I hope you have an enjoyable year.

Christine Fair
Membership Secretary

Junior Disco and Box Leagues Awards

The Disco was held at St. Matthew's Church Hall on Saturday 17th November from 6.30 to 8.30 pm. Thanks go to Sue & Katie Harrison for organising the venue and the food & refreshments and to all the other parents who volunteered their time. Also to Mike Brown for providing the disco.

The attendance was a bit down on last year with only about 45 juniors turning out. However, most of the main prize winners were there for the Junior Club Box Leagues which have been running

throughout the Year. In total 281 matches were played which is almost 100 up on last year. The plan for 2008 is to make the results count towards the L.T.A. rating scheme and I am currently in discussion with the County Referee as to how to effect this.

Most Matches Played	Tom Ramshaw	16
Highest Points	Tom Ramshaw	1217
Highest 100%	Nick Lough	10/10
Highest National Ranking	Ben Lott	
Junior Club Player of the Year	Ben Pearson	

The results are as follows

U.12 Boys

1st	Tom Ramshaw	1217 Points
2nd	Nick Lough	844 Points
3rd	James Young	720 Points

U.12 Girls

1st	Davina Nylander	785 Points
2nd	Charlotte Burrin	689 Points
3rd	Olivia Rodda	509 Points
4th	Jenny Wainwright	508 Points

U.17 Boys

1st	Cameron Laidlaw	752 Points
2nd	Christian Harrison	449 Points
3rd	Jason Nickerson	288 Points

U.17 Girls

1st	Jenny Clarke	218 Points
2nd	Alice McKenna	193 Points
3rd	Emily Heslop	132 Points

Mince Pie Junior Christmas Tournament

This ever popular Christmas event was held on Saturday 22nd December. Out of an expected 44 players who had signed up only 36 actually arrived to play on the day. The competition was split into 2 groups with 2 sub groups in each. Prizes were awarded for 1st, 2nd & 3rd in each group.

1st Prizes were awarded to the following players for winning each of the sub groups:

Daniel Potter
Luke Hudson
Charles Laidlaw
Tom Ramshaw

2nd Place prizes were awarded to:

Joe Burrin
Catherine Young
Alice Mc Kenna
Charlie Moorby

3rd Place prizes were awarded to:

Jenny Wainwright
Thomas Harrison
Toby Matthew
James Young



I would just like to congratulate all the players for their superb level of play and good sportsmanship – and to say that I promise to have more mini Pizza's for the 2008 event!

2008 Events

Play Tennis Day Spring:

Sun May 4th 10am – 3.00pm

Little and Large Competition:

Sun May 11th 1.30 – 4.00pm

American Tournament:

Sat 19th April 1.30 – 4.00pm

Senior & Junior Club Finals & Barbecue

Sat 12th July
(Start Date Sat 5th April)

Ponteland Junior Open

Sun 13th July
Finals Sat 19th July

Committee Members 2007/08

Chairman

Peter Cowey
Tel: 01661 823997

Secretary

Maureen Angus
Tel: 01661 825776

Treasurer

Chris Lott
Tel: 01661 872787

Membership Secretary

Christine Fair
Tel: 01661 822059

Head Coach & Junior Organiser

Nick Clark
Tel: 01661 823540

Domestic & Social

Susan Brown
Tel: 01661 820959

Media & Newsletters

Pamela Nesbitt
Tel: 01661 823629

Child Protection Officers

Sue Harrison (deputy)
Tel: 01661 822102

Floodlight Token Holders

Claire Morgan
Tel: 01661 821709
Peter Cowey
Tel: 01661 822772
Sheila Cowey
Tel: 01661 822772
Bruce Ridley
Tel: 01661 822772

Club Website

pontelandonline.co.uk

Club Webmaster

Pam Nesbitt

Wimbledon Ticket Application Secretary

Rosie McKenna
Tel: 01661 871663

Grounds Co-ordinator

John Cowley
Tel: 01661 824332



Affiliated to Northumberland Lawn Tennis Association

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