

Bearsden Lawn Tennis Club - Secretary's Report 2019

With another year in Bearsden LTC history nearly over, it is time to present the Secretary's Report. This summarises the Club's activities over the past year, and also invites you to attend the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 12th November. Please support your committee in their efforts to manage the Club with both the members' and Club's best interests at heart.

Clubhouse and Courts: Since last year's AGM, our courts have benefitted greatly from a rejuvenation process. The old, dirty, compacted sand was removed from Courts 1 to 4 in March and replaced by fresh, clean sand. Drainage has been excellent, and there have been many compliments received about how nice they are to play on. Many thanks to John Beeley for his work organising that project.

Membership: At end of September 2019, our membership was standing at 208, which is a decrease on last year. The committee would like to thank our Membership Secretary Keith Wright for all his hard work over the year, and for also being our Treasurer.

Coaching: Our Club Head Coach Gordon Wilson (along with his team of assistants and helpers) continues to develop and encourage the junior and senior membership. Gordon has provided an extensive junior coaching programme throughout the whole year, with summer, Easter and October camps running during holiday periods too. There are also popular Drills Nights for senior players taking place on Tuesday, and Thursday during the winter now. As always, the feedback from participants in Gordon's coaching is full of praise for his expertise, advice, and enthusiasm.

Teams: The Club entered 26 teams in the Tennis West of Scotland leagues and competitions this year. This includes 6 junior teams participating in the AEGON junior leagues, 6 teams in the Seniors leagues in the autumn, and 2 teams in the winter leagues.

In the summer leagues, Bearsden had a very steady year – with all of our teams keeping their places in their respective leagues (no relegations, but no promotions either). Special mention to the Ladies 1st team who stay in the very tough Division 1/1.

On the Junior side, our Boys U12, U14 and U16 teams have competed well against strong opposition. In Mini tennis, the U8 and U9 teams did well in their divisions, although the U10s struggled in Division 2A. As always, huge thanks go to those parents who take on team captain roles and give up their free time to take junior players to away matches.

In the autumn leagues, there have been promotions for the Seniors Ladies 2nd and 3rd teams, and for the Senior Mens 1st team too.

Tournaments: The 43rd hosting of the annual **Invitation Tournament** took place on a fine day in early June. Once again, Josie Beeley was the organisational dynamo behind this popular event. Western won the men's title and Clarkston took the ladies.

The **Summer Series Tournament** (this was its 30th year!) was run in early August, and once again attracted highly-rated players from near and far. Club favourite Emma Wright won the Ladies Tableau event, with Fraser Craig from Thorn Park winning the Men's event. The committee would like to express its thanks to Josie Beeley for the considerable commitment, time and effort spent organising and running these events. They undoubtedly boost the profile of Bearsden LTC within the Scottish tennis scene.

The **Drumchapel Inter-Club Tournament** took place in late October and there were lots of BLTC players involved. Although we relinquished the Junior Shield this year (after nine in a row!), we retained the Senior Shield for the fifth year.

Other Events: The Club continues to enjoy social tennis on Saturday afternoons and Wednesday and Sunday evenings. Weather permitting, these sessions are usually well attended and our thanks go to those members who participate regularly.

We also held two social tennis tournaments/BBQs in May and June, a very successful Nature Valley Great British Tennis Weekend event in September, an Open Day in April, a spook-tacular Halloween Monster Smash tennis event for juniors, and a **Family Quorn Cup** event (whose winners were Jamie More and his dad Craig).

We held various other social events throughout the year too – some enjoying the ambience of our lovely clubhouse. Who can forget the hilarity of the Quiz Night we had in June after our pre-Wimbledon social tennis event? The **Mixed Doubles tournament** on Saturday 24th August was a hugely enjoyable afternoon of tennis, followed by an evening where lots of members enjoyed the barbecue and many refreshments. The winners of the J. Black Mixed Doubles cup this year were Derek McKay and Fiona Berlouis.

The **Prizegiving and Awards Evening** social event that was held on Friday October 4th at Douglas Park Golf Club was another fabulous evening. We enjoyed live music from top local tribute band MacBlondie, some energetic dancing, some entertaining speeches, a blind auction, a raffle, and lovely food. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the ‘Doubles Player of the Century’ award to club legend Jan Shaw.

Championships: The Club Championships took place over the months up to finals day on September 14th, with Joanne Quirk in charge again. The big story of the day was Karen Christie winning her grand slam (the Singles, Doubles, and Mixed Doubles titles). Some members assisted with umpiring duties, and we even had some excellent ball-kids in Rory and Autumn Hunter during the Men’s Singles. Many helpers kept the supplies of tea, sandwiches and cakes flowing from the kitchen throughout the day. Once again, the standard of tennis was very high, and we even coped with some rainy weather. Congratulations to our 2019 champions:

Juniors

8 & Under (Red)	Suleman Fahd
9 & Under (Orange)	Rory Hunter
10 & Under (Green)	Autumn Hunter
U14 Boys	Craig Christie
U14 Girls	Maxie Kolberg
U16 Boys	Kyle McKay
U16 Girls	Maxie Kolberg

Seniors

U21 Gents	Kyle McKay
Gents Singles	Kyle McKay
Ladies Singles	Karen Christie
Gents Doubles	Derek McKay and Kyle McKay
Ladies Doubles	Karen Christie and Ashley Donnelly
Mixed Doubles	Karen Christie and Phil Waterfield

On behalf of the committee, I would like to thank all members for their continued support, and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the AGM on the Tuesday 12th November.

Andy Gordon, Secretary