



BEARSDEN LAWN TENNIS CLUB

Founded 1887

www.bearsdenltc.org.uk

As spring approaches, it is time to look forward to the new tennis season at Bearsden Lawn Tennis Club. Our aim at the Club is to offer something for everyone, and to welcome all of those who are interested in playing tennis. The Club's success depends on members coming down and taking part at all levels - social or match play, senior or junior. We hope that there is something in our programme for both new and existing players.

As Secretary, I am the first point of contact for the Club; so, if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will endeavour to help, or find out who can.

With our lovely clubhouse and rejuvenated courts, it's a great time to be a member.

Please note the following dates for your diary:

American Tournaments (Social Tennis): Opening Day Saturday 11th April

These are held each Saturday afternoon from 2pm. For those not familiar with this format, all players mix in with each other and play doubles with a different partner each time they go on court. Everyone is very welcome, the atmosphere is friendly, and it is an ideal way to get to know other members. The standard is very mixed; so don't be shy about coming along. There are tea and snacks for players most weekends during April, May and June.

Open Days and Family Days: In **September**, the Club will be holding a **Nature Valley Big Tennis Weekend** (Family Day) event with games and a BBQ. We want to welcome new members and visitors to find out more about Bearsden Tennis Club. Our coach, Gordon Wilson, will organize activities throughout the morning for all ages and abilities, and in the afternoon non-members are welcome to join in informal matches. See the *Club Events* page of the website for further events.

Matches: With 4 Men's and 5 Ladies Teams, 6 Junior teams, and 6 Seniors (Veterans) teams (plus other Cup and Knockout competition teams), the Club aims to provide competitive play for a wide range of playing abilities. Matches start in the middle of April, and all interested in playing for a team should come down and take part in the Match Practices and Team Drills Nights. The names of the match secretaries are on the Teams page of the website. **Ladies practice is on Tuesday evenings from 7pm.** **Gents practice is on Thursday evenings from 7pm.** There is still plenty of time to join in, and the team captains are always looking for new players. **Junior match practice is on Friday evenings** and details are on the clubhouse noticeboard.

Club Championships: Ties are held throughout the season culminating in Finals Day on **Saturday 12th September**. The entry sheets will be up in the clubhouse soon and the draw will be made in May. It's a great event to take part in – and we're always looking for new champions to disrupt the old guard!

Tournaments: We plan to have Ratings, Invitation and regular American tournaments. These and any other special events will be advertised on the Club website (see the *Club Events* page) and on the noticeboard - so come down regularly to make sure you are not missing out.

Social Tennis: This is always on Saturday afternoons from 2pm, and Wednesday evenings from 7.30pm.

Day Tennis: Members come down on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9.30am. All are welcome and this is a great way to get back into playing tennis. The first session will take place in **mid-April**. Come along regardless of the weather, as you can meet other members, play some tennis, and have a coffee to recover!

Coaching: For Adult and Junior coaching, contact our Head Coach Gordon Wilson (07841-392699). Adult group coaching takes place on Wednesday evenings 6.30pm - 7.30pm at various points throughout the year. Adult Tennis Coffee Mornings take place on Monday and Thursday mornings 9.30am - 11.30am. Please contact Gordon Wilson for more information.

Floodlights: Floodlights are free for members and tokens can be found in the kitchen drawer. This means the courts are available for play until 10pm each evening, all year round.

Membership Secretary: Members should send their subscriptions to: Keith Wright, 72 Douglas Park Crescent, Bearsden, Glasgow G61 3DN (0141-942-6360). You can also pay by **Bank Transfer** (see the membership renewal form for details).

British Tennis Membership: We would like to encourage as many members as possible to sign up to the British Tennis Membership scheme. Please refer to www.lta.org.uk for more information about the benefits of joining. Please note: all members participating in teams will require BTM numbers. It's free to sign up for this, and only takes a few minutes online. Signing up also increases our Wimbledon ticket allocation from the LTA.

BLTC Website: The www.bearsdenlta.org.uk website is constantly being updated and there is a lot of useful information on it. Please refer to it throughout the year, as we are trying to reduce the amount of paper we send out to members. This year, we have an **online membership application form** available on the website. You can also download a form here, and there will be spare forms placed on the noticeboards in the clubhouse if you don't have access to the internet.

Balls: Used match balls (used for only one match) are available at prices from £1 per tin of three. Contact our Ball Convenor Rob Murdoch on 07403-255361.

200 Club: The Club operates a 200 Club to raise money for Club funds. Entry is £15 per year. Draws are made monthly for small prizes, and once a year for a large prize. Details are available from Jayne Gilkes and Kate Haig. Please join and support this fundraising effort - the more members that join, the bigger the gain for the Club, and the larger the prizes. A form to renew your entry (or join for the first time) is available on the website. Note: no receipts for payment of membership will be issued unless specifically requested.

Wimbledon Tickets: The Club receives an allocation of tickets from the LTA each year for the Wimbledon Championships, and a ballot is held to give members the chance to purchase tickets. Further information about the ballot is made available to Club members in January, but you must have a BTM number and have opted-in on the LTA website to the Wimbledon Ballot to be eligible.

Annual Awards and Prize Giving Dinner and Social Evening – It's the highlight of our social calendar! We plan to have the Awards Night on **Friday 2nd October** this year. More details to follow.

I hope you enjoy your tennis and make the most of season 2020!

Andy Gordon, Secretary, 07968-672104, secretary@bearsdenlta.org.uk