

ISSUE 23 MAY 2020 | BACK TO TENNIS

YOUR DRIVE

Newsletter of The Drive Tennis Club, Edgware

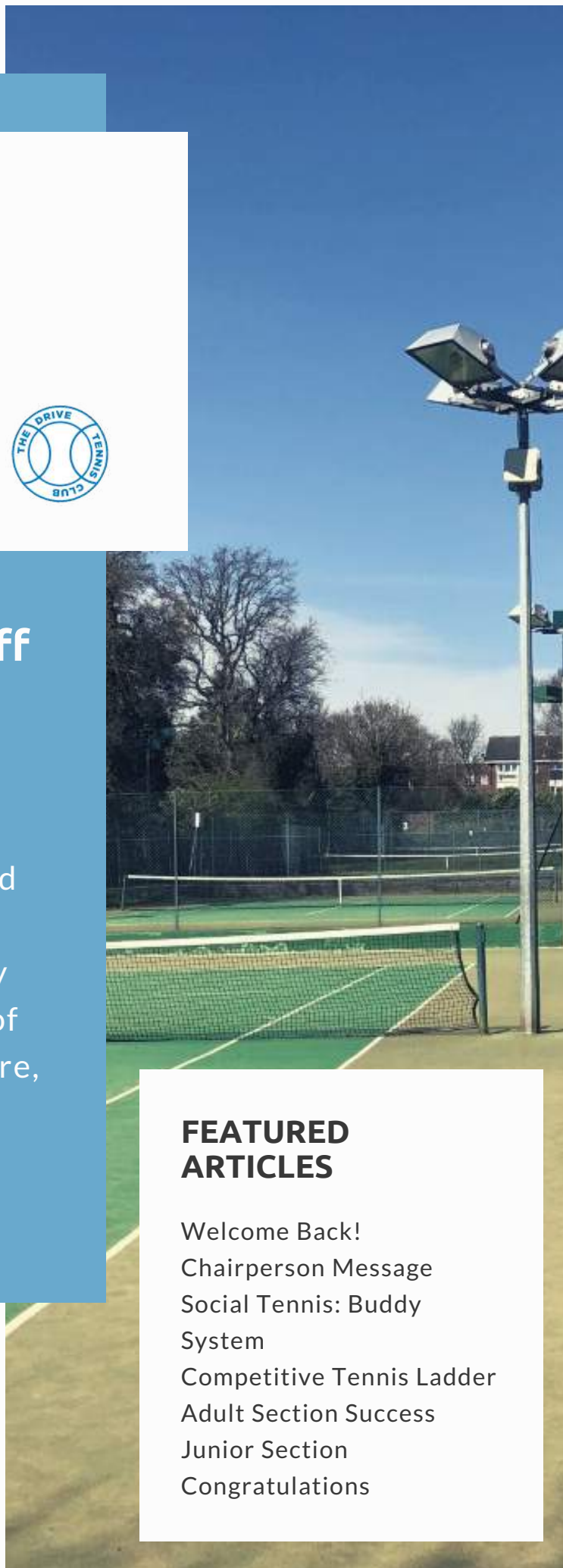


Dusted those cobwebs off yet?

For those of us that have managed to make it back on court with the glorious weather, we're definitely feeling it in the joints! 2 months of no tennis has taken its toll for sure, but rest assured we'll be back to smashing it, along with some spectacular tan lines.

FEATURED ARTICLES

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Welcome Back!



Firstly we would like to thank all of our members for their continued vigilance on court, and abiding to the initial guidelines we released after restrictions were lifted on lock-down.

It has been so nice to see our members enjoying their tennis again in the sun.

The **next committee meeting is to be held 4th June**, where we hope to lift some of our restrictions on tennis.



Chairperson Message



Dear Members,

We have been delighted to see the number of members who are using the courts. What has been even more impressive, is the number of new members who have joined us in the last couple of weeks!

Warm welcome to you all.

I would like to thank members for playing within the guidelines and it is very much appreciated!

However, there have been an increasing number of youths coming to the club who are not members, but have been given the gate entry code by members.

One group were actually playing doubles and were not from the same household!

This does contravene the regulations (which can be found in the Members Pack) and goes against the guidelines. Furthermore, it goes against the spirit of cooperation.

I appreciate that keeping youths and children is a challenging affair and especially now that it is 'half term'. The club should not be seen as an unofficial babysitter.

Your cooperation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Despite the work carried out on the **gate** today, we are still awaiting the completion of the gate automatically opening from within the grounds. It seems that supply chains are still not 100% and we await a part before this can be completed.

As a result you still have to enter the code to exit.

We will also paint a line which will indicate the area where the gate will swing open. This should assist drivers when they exit.

Thank you for your continued patience.

Until we can play doubles again we have introduced a '**Bev's Buddy**' initiative. This is aimed at the players who usually only play doubles and should enable an enjoyable hour. For more details please see **page 4** of the newsletter.

You will have seen another initiative, the '**Tennis Ladder**' which is open to 24 players (on a first come, first served basis) which should provide a friendly, but competitive game. Please see **page 5** of the newsletter for more details.

An email will be sent out shortly with regard to this year's membership fees. Your early action in paying would be greatly appreciated.

We are eagerly looking forward to the next announcement from the government about further lifting of restrictions. We anticipate some new information in the first few days of June and we will review our guidelines.

David Aldridge

Chairperson
On behalf of the Committee

Social Tennis: Buddy System



Our Membership Secretary has set up a new system for our members who are wishing to have some relaxed social tennis with another player.

We know that some of our members usually play doubles socially, and during this time may not sure who to contact to ask to play singles with.

Bev will pair you with someone of a similar standard to you.

If this is of interests to you, simply send Bev an email with your preference, and a convenient day and time that you will likely to be available to play.

Bev will do his best to create pairs, put people in touch with each other so that everyone who wants to has an opportunity to play.

Email: bev.newman@sky.com



Imagine this, but 2m apart.

Competitive Tennis: Tennis Ladder



Now, for those of you who would like a slightly more serious competitive singles match format, we would like to introduce our internal Tennis Ladder.



The Rules are as follows:

- Fast 4 Rules, Best of 3 sets
- If it goes 1 set all, the final set will be decided with a championship tiebreak (first to 10 points)
- There will be 2 ladders of 12 players
- In each ladder, you can challenge someone up to 3 places above yourself
- If you beat someone above you, you replace their spot and they will move down one spot. If you beat a player below you, there is no position change
- **The deadline to sign up is Friday the 29th May**
- Official start Sunday 31st May and finish Sunday 28th June
- Top 2 players qualify for semi-finals. Semi-finals, finals and third place play offs will take place **Sunday 5th July**
- Trophy prizes
- £5 entry fee (to fund trophies)



In order to sign up, please email Ben, our Club Captain at benbrill@talktalk.net

There are only 24 places available and it's a first come, first serve basis!



Adult Section Success



Our adult section is reaping the benefit of staying engaged with the Drive membership and wider tennis community.

Here are some highlights:

- 17 new first time adult members of the Drive. 16 have been regular attendees at Marc's popular squads and were awaiting the new membership year to join. Excited to have plenty more ladies including 3 who have played in the Middlesex Premier Division in the past.

A big welcome to:

Lisa Paris

Oliver Henry

Efra Herrera

Luke Quaynor

Dani Miller

Vikki Davies

Orji Orbang-Oyway

Philippe Troncy

James Goldberg

Ben Gold

Misha Lagonisky

Ben Bentley

Sulina Odwong

Ashwin Punjabi

Jessica Zeynal

Jake Furman

Adam Jaffe



It's clear that Marc's squad blueprint provides a key to increasing membership. We look forward to the 5-10 more players who are waiting for squads to restart and will then join as well.

- Over the lockdown the Drive Instagram following was greatly increased. We thank Stella Gordon, The Jacobson Family, Justin Wigodsky, Zeke Kelly, Julian Kurer, Sulina Odwong and Marc Lewis who all contributed daily Instagram videos. Marc also tried to contact all member who are of a 'young at heart' age to check on their health and wellbeing as we value every member.
- Marc's Ebook and tennis webinar have been widely viewed and has resulted in enquiries from 2 adult professionals (male in top 140 in world and lady in top 300) to use his expertise at coaching at an elite level.

Junior Section



As well as many new Adult members, we have seen our junior section grow over the last couple of weeks. Many thanks to our Head of Junior Coaching Madalina in her efforts to grow the junior section recently.

25 new junior players, so there will be plenty new faces around!!



Congratulations!



The Drive Committee are overjoyed to announce that our very own committee member Neil Cohen has had a beautiful baby girl!

Mother and baby Olivia are both healthy and doing well.

The Committee wish Neil and his family the best of luck on their new journey together, and look forward to seeing Olivia on the tennis court!



Welcome Olivia!

Please be safe on court, and stick to our guidelines still



The committee will be in touch with our members again, once we have had our next meeting.

In the meantime; be safe, be sensible, and most of all enjoy being able to play tennis again!

Please also keep an eye on our website for information as well:
<https://thedrivetennisclub.org/>

Love,

Your Committee



No other place we'd rather be