

ISSUE 24 JUNE 2020 | CLUB REMINDERS

# YOUR DRIVE

Newsletter of The Drive Tennis Club, Edgware



## Feels great to hit the ball again. It spin a long time...

Unlike tennis, puns aren't really my forte.

I hope everyone has been enjoying the last month of beautiful weather and tennis.

Even though we are slowly but surely heading back towards 'normality', I would like to remind members to remain vigilant.

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# Chairperson Message



Dear Members,

I would like to invite members to email me with any suggestions or comments that they may have about the club.

If anyone has any complaints please direct them to me as it will enable me to follow up on the issue.

I would prefer this as an avenue to address issues that may crop up from time to time, and to not have members allow their concerns to become part of a 'whispering campaign'.

This does not allow for the issue to be worked on, but allows for rumours to circulate which is not constructive to members or the club.

The committee is cognisant of the results of the survey that was conducted recently, and has begun to address the issues raised.

As you can appreciate we have had a good deal to contend with since November 2019!

Thank you

David Aldridge

Chairperson  
On behalf of the Committee

[chairman@thedrivetennisclub.org](mailto:chairman@thedrivetennisclub.org)



# Court Cancellation Policy



Due to our ever expanding memberships and people working from home, the club is experiencing reasonably high usage. The issue of bookings has attracted a number of communications to committee members.

**We would appreciate that any bookings made by a player and find they will no longer be using the court, please cancel that booking.**

We appreciate that events can crop up which means cancelling. We would be grateful that cancellations are done at **up to 2 hours** prior to the booking time.

This will allow time for other members to book/use the court.

**If a court has been booked but the players do not show up, it will become 'free' after 10 minutes from the start of the booking time has passed and others will be able to use the court.**

Peak times for the courts are 9-12pm and 5-8pm, if you are planning on booking a court during these times, please book in advance to avoid disappointment. If you have to cancel, please do so as soon as you can, as people are always looking to play during these times.

Also a reminder during these times that **social tennis bookings are limited to 1 hour per person**, with the exception of the **Tennis Ladder matches which can be up to 1.5 hours.**

It is disheartening to see courts being booked but not used as it only causes frustration.



# Club Rule Reminders



## GUESTS

The Club has a policy for members bring a guest and is clearly shown in the Member's Pack and on the website:

<https://thedrivetennisclub.org/guest-policy/>.

This appears to be something that is not adhered to by members who bring guests and it has come to our attention that there are a handful of members who persistently ignore the rules, both in terms of the number of times they can bring a guest and actually paying the associated fee!

There is an expectation by the Club, and it is not unreasonable, that members do not abuse the rules. However, if we have to bring in punitive measures then we will do so and will target the persistent abusers of this trust.

*The club would very much appreciate now receiving the guest fees that have not yet been paid over under the club policy.*

## BLACK SOLED SHOES

A reminder that black soled shoes should not be used on the courts as they adversely affect them. It has been noted that players have been using inappropriate shoes, especially juniors.

Tennis shoes only please.



## DOGS

Last year we had to introduce a total ban on dogs entering the club's premises as we had an incident when a dog bit a member.

This has not changed.

In recent weeks we have seen a number of dogs at the Club and one was off its lead for some time.

The dog, through its enthusiasm, jumped on a player which was not welcome. It must be remembered that there are people who are frightened of dogs.



# Competitive Tennis: Club Champs



It's back! The most important tournament of the year at the club now has dates finalised!



**For our new members:**

This is our annual tournament held every summer (normally starts earlier but was delayed due to Covid-19)

The following events available to enter:

Event	Criteria
Men's Singles	
Men's Doubles	
Women's Singles	
Women's Doubles	
Mixed Doubles	
Mens Veterans Singles	Must be over 50 on 1 April 2020
Mens Veterans Doubles	Both players must be over 50 on 1 April 2020
Mens Super Veterans Doubles	Both players must be over 65 on 1 April 2020
Mixed Veterans Mixed Doubles	Both players must be over 50 on 1 April 2020

Draws are made; each round (except the final) is organised between the players and are to be played by a certain date. All Finals are played on a decided date with umpires and all members are welcome to come watch and have nibbles! All winners get their names up on the boards inside our clubhouse and a trophy engraved to keep for the year.



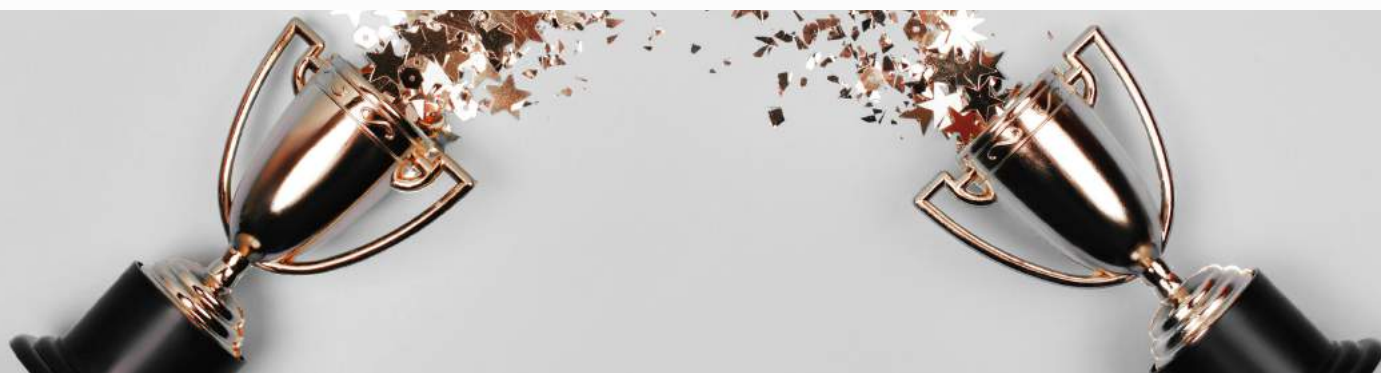
**To enter please fill in this form by the 28th June 2020:**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeB773UbbuKIZKE6MEiWf9Q2tJ7Kh2RsO4qL5DNUmVfLNqGA/viewform>

Or visit: <https://thedrivetennisclub.org/adults-tournaments/>

Draws will be released **July 5th 2020.**

**Finals Day 13th September 2020**



# Social Tennis



## SINGLES

Our Membership Secretary is still running the **Buddy System** for our members who are wishing to have some relaxed social tennis with another player.

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

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.

Email: [bev.newman@sky.com](mailto:bev.newman@sky.com)



## **DOUBLES**

Social doubles schedules are back to normal

**Saturday Morning Doubles 9-12pm** (Intermediate/ Advanced)

Places must be reserved in advance and small fee for balls.

Please email Gerry for more information:

[gerrybass50@gmail.com](mailto:gerrybass50@gmail.com)

**Social Tennis Sunday 9:30-12pm** (Any standard welcome)

Just turn up and play!





# Adult Section



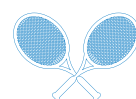
## HITTERS

As part of the evolution of the Club we have introduced 'Hitters'. Hitters offer members the opportunity to improve by practicing with a high performance player.

Having hitters allows players to practice particular aspects of tennis (for example just backhands) that their coach has deemed they need to improve on. The player sets out what is focused on during the session.



**Hitters are a supplement to coaching and should not replace the need for a coach to help improve ones all round game. They have certain restrictions that coaches do not have.**



A hitter can only use up to six balls and cannot use a basket of balls. They cannot provide actual coaching but can offer advice as any other member would do when you play another member.

Not only does this offer the players to improve but it provides the hitter with the opportunity to gain experience as part of their development, especially as they may have aspirations to become coaches.

Information of our official hitters will be posted on our website.



**LTA Accreditation**



Work is still in progress in preparation of the application for re-accreditation with the LTA. The sub-committee has done a great deal of work in preparing the files and the copious supporting documentation which will be presented at the appropriate time. Big thank you to Charlie Sherrard for lending a large chunk of his time and expertise into this.

## Squads

We are looking into re-introducing squads within the confines of the present restrictions and guidelines. Marc is working efficiently on creating drills that would work within the restrictions and as soon as these are approved we will start them as soon as possible. Please look out for an email in regards to squads.

## Memberships

Many thanks to everyone who have now renewed their membership. **There are still about a couple of dozen of you who have not yet responded to Bev's request for your renewal.** I would like to remind these people to respond to his emails and make early contact with Bev with their playing intentions for the new season, so renewals can be finalised.

# Junior Section



## ★ Junior Camps ★

We are planning the regular summer junior camps. However, this is subject to the present restrictions being lifted or substantially changed. Madalina, our Head Coach for Junior's will be sending information out in the very near future. Please also keep an eye on our website for more details.

## Junior Memberships

We would like to warmly welcome all our new junior members along with their parents who have recently joined the club since lockdown restriction lifted. We hope you will enjoy your playing experience down at The Drive.

## Junior bookings



In a recent email that was sent out to the junior membership from me, an error occurred when it was onerously stated that juniors could not book on Saturdays or Sunday mornings from 1000 to 1200.

I apologise for the confusion and upset it may have caused.

It should have read:

**'Juniors cannot book courts 1-4 on Sunday mornings from 1000 to 1200'.**

This is because social tennis has restarted again and we have reverted to the conditions that existed prior to lockdown.

Saturdays are free for all bookings.

We would also like juniors to refrain from booking court 8 Mon-Fri and Sundays, this is for monitoring purposes.

Many thanks for your understanding!

## Junior Squads

Madalina will start running groups and squads at the end of June and will send an email out by the end of this week. Please keep your eyes peeled.





# 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, due to take place in early July.

Please make full use of the hand sanitisers around the tennis club!

If you have time, we would love for our members to leave The Drive a review on Google!



As always keep an eye for updates on our website, Facebook page and Instagram:



Love,

Your Committee

