

May 23, 2009

Down Muddy Lane

Dates for your Diary

May to Sept – Club Closed Tournament

Events for all club members, including tennis, squash, badminton and table tennis. Entry forms available from the club website www.lstc.org.uk and from Reception

May 23 - 11am-5pm - Over 50s Active Ageing Day

In partnership with North Herts District Council, the club is hosting an open day for anyone over the age of 50 to come and try our facilities free of charge. Includes gym, pilates, yoga, tennis, badminton, squash, croquet, table tennis

June 20- 7:30pm – Pink Champagne

A chance for everyone to ditch the sportswear and glam-up for the evening.

Hitchin band Pink Champagne – headed up by saxophonist Chris Pyne – will be providing the music for you to dance to on the evening. There will also be a light buffet – and all for the bargain price of £15 a ticket. Please support the club by buying your tickets now from reception.

June 24- 7:30pm – Club AGM

Come and support our teams in action

A selection of home fixtures over the next few weeks:

Sat May 23, 1pm – Boys 16 v Nottingham Team Tennis Premier

Sun May 24, 1pm – Mens 1 v Mens 2 Herts Summer League

Mon May 25 530pm – Letch 1 v Codicote 1 Datchworth Evening League

Sun May 31 11am – Ladies 1 v Cumberland Team Tennis National Div 1

Sun May 31 1pm – Ladies 2 v Northampton Team Tennis National Div 2

Sun June 14 12pm – Mens 1 v Gosling Team Tennis National Div 1

Club Restructuring

The club's Board of Directors recently took the difficult decision to make the Club Manager post redundant, a decision it was felt was in the best interests of the club's members. This was a very hard decision to make because of the impact on Daniel. However, it had become clear that we needed to strengthen the supervision of the club's different areas. This would add significant extra costs to the running of the club, which the budget could not support, while the staffing budget could not be increased. The club has now freed up money to

provide more resources for maintenance, full duty manager cover, and permanent members of staff on duty in reception and the bar. It is vital to the club's well-being that these areas are managed more effectively.

Employment contracts have also been offered to our two full-time gym staff. The Board of Directors hope to appoint soon a Sports Manager to work alongside other section managers.

Alf Rider

A memorial trophy will be awarded in memory of Alf Ryder, who died earlier this month from heart failure.

Alf was responsible for starting a junior coaching programme when Letchworth Tennis Club was based at Paddock Close. Before Alf became involved there was no coaching programme at the club. We hope Alf would have been proud of how the club has progressed his work.

Alf had kept himself fit and active until very recently, walking into town every day for coffee and to Letchworth Hall Hotel for

lunch.

Alf's daughter, Alison Rider-Hill, has asked whether the club could award an Alf Rider Cup to the winner of a junior tournament, in memory of her father and what he did to start junior coaching at the club.

We will select an appropriate annual junior event, the winner of which will receive the Alf Rider Cup in memory of Alf.

Sophie on shortlist for European Youth Olympic Festival

Fourteen-year-old Sophie Watts could represent Great Britain at this year's European Youth Olympic Festival. Sophie, ladies' 1st team player and currently ranked in the top 30 in the UK (16U) is one of four girls shortlisted for the festival, which will take place in Finland in July. The festival is a multi- sport event

with 49 countries taking part.

The tennis event is for players born in either 1994 or 1995 and the team will consist of two girls and two boys. The final selection of players will be made in early to mid June.

AEGON Team Tennis 2009 News

Ladies First Win in Southend

Last weekend the club's AEGON Team Tennis Ladies 1st team travelled to Southend and played Thorpe Bay. After a close fought battle team we came back with our first victory in National Division 1. Well done Sophie, Anneka, Jenny and Jane!

The second team were at home against Newmarket. It was a fun afternoon - well I certainly enjoyed it! Julz gave a great performance and won 4 games from her girl, who normally plays at number 2. Wendy and I both lost our singles, but Janine came through in 3 to win our first rubber of the match

Going into the doubles we were obviously 3-1 down, but with our wealth of experience, the team won both matches to bring it back to 3-3. So, a penalty shootout to decide it - Janine and I were put forward for the singles, a small crowd turned up, and unfortunately we cracked under the pressure (well I did)!

All in all a good day of tennis with one win and one very close loss – well done to everyone who took part!

Louise Penny May 10, 2009



Steffi Graf in action at Wimbledon. Would she make our Ladies 1st team?
Does anyone have her husband's number? Our Mens team might need him

Mens 1st team Also Takes First Win

LSTC's AEGON Team Tennis Mens 1st team also recorded its first victory in this year's competition with a 4-2 victory over Connaught at the weekend. The win followed losses to Bromley, Westcliff and Park Langley.

The team was at long last close to full strength. Although Number 1 Dominic Ross-Hirst was forced to retire injured, Marc Beckles, Orion Modebe and James Thomas all won in straight sets and Beckles and Modebe sealed the win in the doubles. The Mens 2nd team playing in County Division 1 are unbeaten after wins against Barnet and Batchwood.

But the 3rd team are happiest as they got to play on grass at Broxbourne last week!

Junior Squash at LSTC

Junior Squash – Our players of tomorrow

Junior Squash coaching happens every Saturday morning and the players are improving across the board.

Our Saturday sessions are generally broken into two halves: the first half is teaching/coaching/mentoring and development, the final half sees the players putting what they have learnt into practice and to see it effectively delivered. Their speed about the court and their awareness of where their opponent is located improves as each week passes. Their pure enjoyment of the game is a joy to behold. I know that their enthusiasm has encouraged parents who had previously thought that they would not play to consider taking up the game - a real move forward.

Just prior to the Easter break, we held an in-house tournament and a great time was had by all. Several players are of very equal standard and their games were very competitive.

If you would like to come along and play or watch our juniors in action please join us on a Sat morning at around 10:15am for some outstanding squash with real commitment.

If you are a junior (under18) and would like to come along please call me for details and you will be made most welcome.

Our juniors of today are our players of tomorrow!

Lloyd Dalton-Brown

Level 2 Squash Coach

Contact no: 07802 202153

PHONE:
01462-675444

E-MAIL:
reception@lstc.org.uk
sports@lstc.org.uk
gym@lstc.org.uk
bar@lstc.org.uk
catering@lstc.org.uk

We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.lstc.org.uk

**The website is still
under construction.**

Do we have your latest e-mail address?

Make sure you have given your e-mail address to Reception. One lucky winner will have £40 credit added to their account. The winner will be announced in the next newsletter in two weeks' time

And lastly...

If there is anything you'd like to be added to the newsletter, please send an e-mail to sports@lstc.org.uk. Reports, pictures, news, requests, suggestions all welcome