

# Newsletter - Summer '09

## Off-Season Matchplay

We have received a grant from the Community chest award scheme aimed at developing matchplay. The first attempt to get this off the ground (the pre season league) has not been very successful in attracting names. Have you an idea to encourage more internal matchplay? any idea will have to require a fee so that it can be repeated in subsequent years (criteria of community chest) but it can cover any Teen/Adult age group. Put your idea forward either on a feedback sheet (post in the blue box) or e-mail at [info@abegavennytennis.org.uk](mailto:info@abegavennytennis.org.uk) The sessions can be coach led so you could have shot specific analysis/ match analysis as part of the idea. Being able to spend some money on improvement is a rarity so lets do it!



## 2009 Club Championship

Our club tournament for all ages begins at the start of July, culminating in a finals day early October. Get your entries in by the end of June and enjoy your matches. For further details see the club noticeboard or competition pages of the club website.

**Thanks** to all those who came to our successful club-cleanup day. Let Dave Robinson know if you can lend a hand at the next one!

## Chairman's Notes

This Newsletter is packed with Club updates, coaching information and newsworthy items, so please read on. We have also included a feedback document and would welcome any feedback you can give us on any aspect of the Club.

Firstly, great congratulations to Sean Jones (Sheepy) for getting through to the last 3 of the 2009 Tennis Wales awards in the category of Assistant Coach. Sean will hear at the event in July if he will win the award.

Another great effort in collecting Tesco Vouchers, you totalled 4,225 vouchers. I have placed the order for a mini tennis net, a zone coaching aid for the net and some other bits and pieces. Thanks to all of you who kept those vouchers coming in.

It looks like a new world record was set for the largest picnic in many venues. In total and around the UK there were 15,000 picnickers at 100 venues. I thought that was great fun. The parent /junior mini tennis tournament finalised a great day and something I think to repeat. A certificate of our participation is on the door of the Clubhouse. Thanks to all those of you that took part, to the volunteers, helpers with the food and to Robert for organising the tournament.

The festival was another great social success. Thanks to all those that made this a memorable day. Look out for the posters for the next festival probably to be held in September. If you have ideas for an event we can include in the next festival please feedback.

Because of our successes in signing up British Tennis members we were allowed 31 pairs of Wimbledon Tickets which became a bit of a nightmare to organise. What does not help is the way in which we collect membership fees. Tickets can only go to paid up members of the new year and we allow discounted payment up to the end of May, i.e. after the Wimbledon ticket draw. In addition matches have already started and we find also that unpaid up members have already played in matches by the time they pay their subs and again this can cause problems. It does not seem logical that if your season starts on the 1<sup>st</sup> May then you reward members (discounts till 31<sup>st</sup> May) for technically late payment of subs so next year we are looking to change the time period for which the discount will be paid. Although a plan has not yet been finalised we are looking at the following option for membership renewal for 2010.

- Memberships still due by May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Discount deducted if fees paid by April 30<sup>th</sup>
- Normal rate (or perhaps a penalty) if paid before 31<sup>st</sup> May.
- Members will have to reapply if payment is made after 31<sup>st</sup> May with the possibility of a joining fee again payable.

Unfortunately the late payment of subscriptions puts a tremendous burden on our volunteer supporters and hopefully by clarifying the payment period and raising the focus we can concentrate fee collection into a shorter period before the season really kicks in.

**Mike Buck**

### Clubhouse

Members should be aware that in an effort to reduce costs the weekly clubhouse clean has recently been replaced by volunteer members- Roe Bissett is ensuring standards are monitored and maintained. However, it's up to all members to play a part in maintaining the cleanliness and smart appearance of our Clubhouse e.g..

- Club morning / evening tidy ups.
- Post match tidy up.
- Parents tidying up after juniors coaching / events.
- Reporting issues in maintenance log book on notice board.
- Complying to our recycling policy and refuse provision.

If everyone does their bit we can continue to save money and maintain high standards.

### Junior News

The juniors are as busy as ever, with coaching and Friday nights packed out and loads of competition happening. A special mention to Mair Floyd-Bosley & Gareth Rees for winning the Road to Wimbledon event, they now play the regional finals in Cardiff for a chance to play at SW19! Also the Mini Red team for winning their league in Aegon Team Tennis. Not forgetting James Morris who was selected to represent South Wales in a National invitational event, only to fall ill the night before!

Well done to all those who are competing and good luck in the junior club championships.

We are forming a junior sub-committee to help out with our events, many thank to those for volunteering their time.

Jane Grayer is taking orders for a bulk club clothing order (saving on postage). See the noticeboard for more info.



Interested in a cardio fitness work out linked to Tennis?

You wear a heart rate monitor and do tennis related exercises, hitting a lot of balls to music, with the aim of keeping your heart rate in the work-out zone. If you would be interested in taking part, indoors, probably in the autumn then let Robert know or e-mail [info@abergavennytennis.org.uk](mailto:info@abergavennytennis.org.uk).



Are you 14 –18 years old and want to get involved in leading tennis sessions? A new leaders course will be held at the Club early in September to book your place or ask further questions e- mail [info@abergavennytennis.org.uk](mailto:info@abergavennytennis.org.uk). The certificated leaders course takes 10 hrs with 10 hrs on court volunteering on Friday nights. The cost to members will be approx £35 and will include the basic manual/log book etc. This is great for your personal development and a fantastic addition to your CV.



On the back of our sponsorships from REM and the Hardwick, we have applied for Sportsmatch funding to launch an indoor winter tennis project. Watch this space...

**SAFETY NOTICE:** Can all members ensure that they dispose of ball tube ring-pulls safely, as they are a danger to our mini members.



In order to improve the club facilities our fundraising efforts are going towards our floodlighting project.

To this aim we have submitted a planning application for floodlights to all of the rear courts. Due to the cost of this scheme we anticipate phasing the project, initially just providing lights to one of the rear courts.

We should receive a decision on the planning application by mid August



**100 Club:** Well done to Bob Lawton for winning 1st prize last month. You can enter the remaining 10 months by getting a cheque for £20 to Alice Garlick by last Monday in July. Not only do you support the club but you can also win something.

**Team News:** We have 8 teams this summer with 4-6 in a team, so many players competing. The matches finish in July so watch this space for final results. If you are interested in team tennis, contact Alice Garlick: [dagarlick@madasafish.com](mailto:dagarlick@madasafish.com)

**Sponsor News: REM Management** have relocated from Lulworth House in Monk Street to larger premises at the Lanover Business Centre. **Champagne at the Hardwick!** Congratulations to Stephen and Jo Terry on the safe arrival of their baby boy, Finlay James Frederick, who was born on Thursday 4th June.