

Christmas Newsletter

Deck the halls with boughs of holly..fa la la la la la la la la
Tis the season to be jolly..blah blah blah



Yes you've got the picture. Its that time of year again. So with mulled wine in hand and roaring fire in hearth, I will look back with you all and reflect on past glories and anticipate future triumphs. So as it is a tennis club, I'm going to talk about our sporting achievements, and in a break with tradition I am going to start with the Men.



We field 4 men's teams in the summer league all of whom did well and retained their positions in their appointed group. Our 1st team play in the premier group and came 2nd so beer all round for that team. There has not been a problem with attendance with the men, although some of the matches weren't played until August as it enabled us to field our strongest side, So many thanks to all our men for playing so vigorously.



I now have to report on our ladies !!!! well, its been a bit of a challenge to organise.



we started the summer league with 4 teams and in fairness we haven't done at all badly. 1st and 2nd have stayed in the top part of their group the 4th were 7th out of 10 but the 3rds struggled in theirs. The main problem has been fielding teams which has caused Hannah many a sleepless night, hangovers and counselling sessions. With this in mind it has been decided to only put forward 3

teams next year. We hope that this will enable us to have more members per team to pull on and cause less stress to team captains.



Club Championships went well, although we only had 30% of members enter. With the fine weather over the 2 weeks helping get the matches played on time.

The format seemed to work well with no problems being reported and finals day was a great success with excellent matches. For such a small club we have an abundance of talent which was evident on finals day. Our Juniors had played their own tournament over the previous weeks which had been instigated by our president Mrs Sheila Higham and we incorporated their presentations on that day as well, so encompassing all of the Club. Many thanks to all involved in all aspects of this main event.



Autumn league has caught us napping, It is a whole new ball game to some ladies..yes.. that's why you are encouraged to attend club nights as trying to outrun a nubile 18yr old lad isn't quite as daunting in a match if you've already tried it on practise night !!! We have 3 teams entered in this. Some of our men have gone back to Uni, half term caused a shortage of players and we have had injuries, all of which has meant that we haven't fielded the appropriate strength of team so some of the results have been disappointing. This has raised a few concerns and blood pressure and we might have to drop down to 2 teams next year.



So to round up!!!!



This year the overall results have been pleasing but it has taken a lot of hard work to obtain them. A large proportion of our ladies do not get turned on by competitive tennis, but put on a slightly blue comedian...a large barrel of beer and a shed load of wine, and we can pack them in.. which leads me nicely on to...Social.



With Captain Denise at the helm, we sailed down the Cut into the Black country and so into the comedy night.



Many many thanks to all of you who attended the Comedy night. A last minute decision to hold a birthday Bash certainly increased the bar takings, and a nice tidy profit was made for the club. It was lovely to see so many members this year. Thanks must go to Denise for her organising and to all the members who gave up their time to help on the night.



The success of this night has prompted the committee to increase the social events and fun tournaments for the next year. 2011 will not be gloomy in Claverely so please get involved, respond positively to requests for help and enjoy an action packed year.



The following events are already in the pipeline with definite dates to be confirmed



March. Ladies night in the plough to start pre season training

April. Daisy wheel tournament to be shortened and held on one day organised by Phillippa Belum



May.. Parent and child tournament organised by the coach, Richard Wheeler



June..Breast cancer walk organised by Kim..Walk around Claverley ending in plough pub. So supporting our main sponsors and socialising with members whilst doing something for charity.



June. Joint fund raiser for the tennis club and guide dogs for the blind (shades for the day) organised by Martin Wheeler (yes, he is an optician)



July. Strawberries and cream tournament organised by Deborah Parker



End September/ beginning October. Club championships



October. Main fund raising event organised by Denise, ideas on a postcard please, keep it clean!!!

October/November, Ghost, Ghouls and Guys organised by Rebecca Parker-Brittain.....use your imagination.



Finally on behalf of the committee I would like to thank



Victoria Attwood. Our Child protection officer. Even though we are a small club we still have to abide by rules and regulations. So thanks for taking on that role.

Anthony Jones for the essential maintenance of the courts, ensuring that we all have tennis balls to play with and his commitment and enthusiasm to play at all times.



Phillipa Belum. A lady who has responded to cry's of help and taken over the running of the Thursday night rota. and will run a tournament next year.



Mark Hammond who will be the Web Master for the coming year.



Finally I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

