



Top Spin

Introduction—Editor's View

Welcome to the Spring 2021 edition of the Badshot Lea Tennis Club Newsletter! Here we are again slowly coming out of lockdown. On the bright side we are now on BST, so lighter evenings and there is lovely bird song in the air. Outdoor tennis started 29 March, welcome back one and all, especially our new members!



Court Usage

Please remember to use the  Google Calendar booking system. It guarantees you have the court when you want it, rather than turning up hoping for a free court.

Remember there is sanitiser in the clubhouse. Please sign the attendance sheet if you use any clubhouse facilities, including the ball machine.

AGM

The clubs AGM was held on Wednesday March 24th via Zoom. The minutes of which have been circulated.

The following members were elected (or re-elected) to the committee:

Chairman: Gillian Hyman

Secretary: *Volunteer needed, please consider helping*

Treasurer: Helen Scrivener

Match Secretary: Sue Treherne

Committee Members: Mike James, Phil Austen-Jones, Marianne Barton, Rachael Austin-Jones

Ball Steward: Amanda Watson

Would you like to help with the running of your local tennis club? Please contact Gillian or any committee member for details.

Club Nights

With the most popular time for tennis in the UK coming up please remember that on club nights we need to make sure everyone gets a chance at playing. If others are waiting to play, then please adopt the club night scoring system:

- Doubles matches to be played when possible
- A total of four games to be played per match
- Short deuces to be played at 40-40. i.e. When the score gets to 40-40 you play the best of 3 points to decide the game
- At the end of the match, please see what the score is on the other court. If it is nearing completion, then wait for them to finish and then mix the players up so everyone gets to play with and against different people.

2021 Club Tournaments and Fun Days

Some dates for your diaries, more details and the entry forms will be sent out nearer the time.

Sun 6 June — Adult round-robin tournament.

Sat 4 Sep—the Junior afternoon

Sun 12 Sep — Adult round-robin tournament

Quick Tennis Quiz

1. Who has won the most women's Wimbledon singles titles?
2. How many French Open singles titles has Rafael Nadal won?
3. Who was the youngest and the first unseeded player to win the men's singles at Wimbledon?
4. What breakthrough was made by Lili Alvarez at Wimbledon in 1931?

Social Events

How about a club BBQ and tennis event to make use of the longer summer evenings? We'd have to time the cooking so that the smoke didn't drift across the courts and give players excuses for missing shots, but it might be nice over the summer to have a game of tennis and a burger afterwards.



Keep an eye on the club WhatsApp channel for date / time, probably a Friday evening in July (This is dependent on weather forecast and any government restrictions and guidelines etc).

Team Tennis

Although the Aldershot & District LTA (ADLTA) will be running friendly interclub summer league, it was decided at the AGM not to submit a mixed team this year due to people try to go away after the long lockdown. To enable club members to still play competitive tennis and keep us fit, tournament secretary, Phil, is arranging a mini tournament/ladder. Watch for the email invite.



Future Club Projects—update

The club's committee has been working to upgrade the facilities at the tennis club. The application for funding from the local new developments 'Community Infrastructure Levy' (CIL), has been successful pending final approval on 6 April. The Committee is continuing to approach other funding bodies to help cover the shortfall. If all grant applications are successful, they will allow the installation of LED floodlights on both courts and a smart replacement ability-friendly clubhouse. Additionally the area around the new clubhouse will be paved and bicycle stands installed. An outside electrical point and water tap will also be provided. We are still awaiting notification of the final planning permission.

Plans for the new clubhouse and location of the floodlights are on display in the clubhouse.

VOLUNTEERS PLEASE!

Gillian would like some volunteers who live near the courts to cover the opening and closing of the Public Court for hire. Please contact Gillian if you can help with this. *Thank you*

Ball Machine

We are fortunate to have an excellent ball machine at the club. Have you used it yet? It can give you a variety of ball deliveries to help improve your returns. The pre-season check-up found lots of balls jammed inside. If that starts happening again, please report it to committee for repair.

To help the longevity of the tennis balls we also have a ball pressuriser. Please familiarise yourself with using this after you have used the ball machine. Contact Gillian if you wish to have a walk through on how to use it.



Club Clothing

Why not promote the club ? - we have our own club clothing range. Please see our [website](#). Click on 'Tennis Kit' on the top menu.



**Writers
Wanted!**

Articles are welcome for our summer edition of the club newsletter. Please send through to Gillian for their review and inclusion.

Answers 1. Martina Navratilova 2. 12 3. Boris Becker
4. She wore shorts (the first woman to do so at Wimbledon)

Club Reminders



Coaching

The clubs affiliated LTA coach, Allson Egenti, is coaching at the Aldershot Tennis Centre on Saturday mornings through the Spring season. Social distancing and hygiene rules apply. It is an ATC-run open session so you need to book early if you wish to attend. See their website <https://www.aldershottenniscentre.co.uk/> for further details and latest news on indoor tennis following lifting of lockdown 3.

Once back up and running the payment is £14, payable to the centre at time of booking. Tel: 01252 750431. State you are booking for the Saturday Adult Drop In Session @ 10:00am. It is 1hr long. There will be a maximum number, tbc, at the session, early booking is recommended.

Sue is a member of the Centre and normally books the hour 9-10 before for a warm up for BLTC players. We then do not use our time warming up at 10:00! Please let Sue know (email) if you will be attending the 9:00 as well. Cost for this is divided between all who attend, nominally £4.50, payable to Sue.

2021 LTA Wimbledon Ballot—change in the process

All members are encouraged to belong to LTA as an Advantage Play+ member and affiliate to the Badshot Lea Tennis Club. This will give you free entry to the Wimbledon Ballot and many more exclusive venues and offers.



LTA have changed the way the Wimbledon Ballot will be run for The Championships. The changes that are being made are to improve the processes for operating the ballot, with a fair and transparent centralised process replacing the previously decentralised approach.

The changes to ballot processes are only applicable to LTA registered venues and LTA members linked to a club/venue for which going forward one centralised ballot will be held. In the new centralised system, clubs will not receive an individual allocation of tickets.

Note: There will not be a public ballot for the Championships in 2021.

LTA announcement 18 March, states *'because we are unsure of the total spectator capacity of The Championships and therefore the number of tickets that will be available to the LTA, we have decided not to hold an LTA Advantage Wimbledon Ballot this year. However, we will continue to work closely with the AELTC to ensure an allocation of tickets will be available to eligible LTA Advantage members. We anticipate these tickets will be made available online from the beginning of June and will be in touch with more information as soon as we are able to.'*

We're Fundraising for the new Floodlights and Clubhouse



Did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be raising free donations for Badshot Lea Tennis Club with easyfundraising?

There are over 4,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation – including eBay, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com and M&S – and it won't cost you a penny extra to help us raise funds. All you need to do is:

1. Go to https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/badshotleatennisclub/?utm_campaign=raise-more and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, the retailer will make a donation to Badshot Lea Tennis Club at no extra cost to you whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and Badshot Lea Tennis Club will be really grateful for your donations. Please invite your friends and family to join and help us raise funds for the Club.

Thank you for your support.