



# Top Spin

## Introduction—Editor's View

Welcome to the Winter 2024 edition of the Badshot Lea Tennis Club Newsletter!

The committee welcome our new members and look forward to seeing you at the club and on court during winter, weather permitting! Hope you enjoy this edition and remember, articles are welcome.



## Skittles and Fish & Chips Social

With storm Bert raging outside, the tennis club's annual fundraiser of skittles and fish & chips supper was held in the school house, Tongham in November. Traditional skittles was played and won by the club's newest member Dae, having not played the game before she was extremely good at it. Well done Dae.



Following a break for the F&C a knock-out session was held with coach Matt showing everyone how it should be done.

A BIG thank you to Sue and Phil for running the evening and keeping us organised. Also, thank you to the members for coming, playing and donating raffle prizes, and to our loyal friends of the club who attend our fundraising events. An excellent array of prizes in the raffle raised £118. The evening overall raised £255 for club funds and towards further court treatment in 2025.



## Coaching News—an update from Matt

We have exciting news that we have Ben O'Hara joining the coaching team in the role as Head Coach. Ben was previously Head Coach of Frimley LTC for Return Tennis before moving to Scotland with his family. We are fortunate now that Ben is moving back as he is an excellent coach with lots of experience. Ben has worked with most of the Return Tennis team for more than a decade and is an LTA Level 4 Senior Club Coach.

In other great news Coach Sally, who has been working at the club already, finished her second coaching qualification in September which means our coaching team at the club will allow us to introduce more sessions for both children and adults as well as having more coaches available for private coaching.

The new sessions or increased space this term on offer:

*Year R-3 - Monday 3.45-4.30*

*Year 6-11 - Monday 4.30-5.30*

*Badshot Lea Infants After School Club - Wednesday 3.10-4.10*

*Year 1-4 - Wednesday 4.15-5*

*Year 5-11 - Thursday 5-6*

*Adults all levels - Wednesday 1.30-2.30*

*Adults all levels - Thursday 6-7*

These sessions will go live on the app on Saturday 14th December.



If you wish to find out more information on groups or private lesson's please email [info@returntennis.co.uk](mailto:info@returntennis.co.uk)

## Court Maintenance

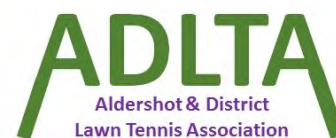
Before the summer season of play, there may be some maintenance work carried out on both courts to try and eradicate the moss.

Please check court calendars and WhatsApp to ensure courts are available before booking them!



## BLTC League Matches

At time of writing our league matches are going well despite the weather. The Mens B and Mixed B are near the bottom, but Mens A, Mixed A and Ladies are at or close to the top—well done everyone.



## Club Sessions—update

From January, the new adult coaching session with Ben will be Thursdays 6-7pm, club sessions will start at 7pm.

Saturday morning sessions from 10am.  
We look forward to seeing you on court.



## 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. **You can now book time on both courts.**

Please sign the attendance sheet if you use any clubhouse facilities, including the ball machine(s).

## Club Fundraising

Despite the club gaining various grants for the recent new floodlights, clubhouse refurbishment and landscaping, the club's funds are depleted. These now need to be built up in readiness for the next maintenance work: possible fencing repair/replacement, court maintenance or replacement. Various club social events are now being planned/held to help fundraise.

The BBQ held on the tournament finals day and Skittles evening were both great fundraisers. Thank you to all who support the Club.

A **musical social evening** is under discussion for February, to celebrate dry January! The music will be provided by our club DJ and band member Richard. Please check your emails nearer the time.



We continue to be registered with easy fundraiser, see page 4—and please sign up if you have not already. It is free to use and raises money for the Club. Purchase of club clothing will also raise money for the club. See page 3



## Quick Tennis Quiz

Please give the quiz a go, answers on page 3:

1. At Wimbledon, which was introduced first? Hawk-Eye Technology or Centre Court Retractable Roof?
2. What choices are available to the winner of the toss at the start of a match?
3. Does the server have to wait for the receiver to be ready?
4. *First serve* out, second *serve* toss, a *ball rolls* in and the opponents call *let*. If you're in your service motion, do you get a first serve?



# Club Reminders




**Ball Machines**  
**(Ball Machine 2 is currently Out of Service, so please use #1 for now)**

We are fortunate to have two excellent ball machines at the club. Have you used them yet? They 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 the committee for repair. There is an instruction sheet in the clubhouse.

To help the longevity of the tennis balls we also have a ball pressuriser. Please try and use this after you have used the ball machine. Again there is an instruction sheet in the clubhouse.

Contact Gillian if you wish to have a walk through on how to use it.



Both ball machines now have a remote control, so you can start and stop them from other end of court!



**Newsletters**  
 Copies of previous issues of the Club's newsletter can be found on the Club website, see footer of web page.



Articles are welcome for our 2025 Spring edition of the club newsletter. Please send through to Gillian for their review and inclusion.



# 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.

Kitlocker, who provide the clothing have teamed up with [easyfundraising](#), so when purchasing, at no additional cost to you, Kitlocker will donate 3% of the purchase price to the Club.

See page 4 for [easyfundraising](#).

# LTA and Wimbledon Ballot

All members are encouraged to belong to LTA as an Advantage Play+ member and affiliate to the Badshot Lea Tennis Club. **It is free!** This will give you free entry to the Wimbledon Ballot in 2026 and many more exclusive venues and offers.



<https://www2.lta.org.uk/advantage/> then Click on Advantage Play—it is FREE!

Login to your Advantage Home using your *LTA Username and Password*

**CONGRATULATIONS to all those who have received tickets through the Member ballot or Public ballot.**

**Quiz Answers**

- Hawk-Eye Technology (in 2007, the roof was first used in 2009)
- The winner of the coin toss can choose to serve first or receive first, or which side of the net the players will take. The loser of the toss chooses the other option.
- The general tennis rule and etiquette is to not serve until the receiver is ready. The rules also say that the receiver should play to the server's pace - that is they should be generally ready when the server is ready to serve.
- Yes, you're due a first serve.

## Club Fundraising

Please share this fund-raising page with friends and family to help continue to raise revenue for the club and the court maintenance and resurfacing fund. Thank you.



We are continuing to Fundraise for the Club

Members registered with **easyfundraising** and shopping online are raising quite a few £s for the Club. Have you joined yet?

If you're not supporting Badshot Lea Tennis Club yet, please sign up now. It takes 2 minutes & 7,000+ shops will donate to us for free every time you shop with them! Now a QR code for easy link up.

You can find our easyfundraising page at

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/badshotleatennisclub/?utm\\_campaign=raise-more&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=gs-e1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/badshotleatennisclub/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=gs-e1)

There are over 7,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation – including **eBay, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, Screwfix and M&S** – and it won't cost you a penny extra to help us raise funds.

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.



**MY · CLUB · MARKET** [Shop Now](#)

My Club Market is an eShop where you can buy anything sports-related; get a great deal, AND raise money for us. **10% from every sale supports Badshot Lea Tennis Club.**

We have already funded 4 Junior Rackets for the Club through this site.

So when you're doing your shopping, please think of using our Outlet, and asking your friends and family to do the same. Every little helps - so thanks for your support!

<https://myclubmarket.co.uk/market/badshotleatennisclub/>

