

**CLUB SUMMER CALENDAR**

'Battle of the Sexes' Social Tournament & Grass Court Opening	Saturday 14 May
10U County Cup	Saturday 21 May
Summer Party	Saturday 21 May
MHB County Mixed Charity Doubles	21/22 May
Robfest	Friday 10 June
American Evening	Saturday 11 June
Benjamin Cup	Thursday 23 June
Malvern Open	Saturday 25 June
Rest of World Event	Tuesday 12 July
H&W County Closed	Saturday 16 July
Club Finals Day	17-23 July
Charity Tournament	Saturday 13 August
12U County Cup	20-26 August
Ripple Cup	Saturday 3 September
Mixed Doubles	Wednesday 7 Sept
ITF Senior Tournament	17/18 September
	Saturday 24 Sept
	Sunday 2 October
	6-9 October

**Editorial**

It is such a relief being back in more normal times and as you will see from the schedule of upcoming events there is much to look forward to in the coming months.

As always Manor Park benefits from the wonderful input from our many volunteers and a special mention should go to Dianah Marlow whose regular 'Saturday Socials' have been a great addition to the weekly schedule of activities. And of course, there is tea and cakes provided after the tennis – all baked by a rota of expert cake makers organised by Lesley Lowndes! At least 20 players have been attending on a regular weekly basis come rain or shine and the sessions will continue over the coming months. A special tournament will be run for the Saturday Social players on the 21st May coinciding, weather permitting, with the Opening of the Grass and followed by a Barbecue. Bill Fleming and David Smith have been hard at work and we are looking forward to enjoying even better grass court play this summer.

Members will be pleased to know that our ITF100 Series Event gained recognition from H&W LTA and we won 'Competition of the Year' in the recent LTA Awards and now evidently go forward to the Regional Awards. Watch this space!

**Adult Groups & Individual Coaching**

Contact Chris Skinner on 07813 071937 or Jane Poynder on 01684 574435.

**Junior Coaching**

Easter camps 5 – 8, 11 – 14 April.

Term programme starts as from the 25 April.

For full details contact:

tennis@malverntennisacademy.com



**Spring flowers**

The grounds at Manor Park are at their best in the springtime. Clusters of daffodils appear on the grassy bank along the Church Street boundary and are also on display at the drive entrance and along the drive verge. Daffodils and tulips line the path up to the Clubhouse while bluebells and wild garlic come into flower along the path of the stream. For a short period, the magnolia tree beside grass tennis court number 6 becomes a mass of bloom as shown in the photograph above. This tree was planted about 1995 in memory of Judy Vaughan, a tennis member who died at a tragically young age after a short illness. She was the wife of Michael Vaughan, the Club Chairman, who guided the major club development, providing what is now known as the Vaughan Hall. It is an especially attractive setting for a game of tennis at this time of year.

**Club Improvements for 2021/22**

Tennis members by now are taking for granted the improvements made over the summer of 2021. Members decided by a democratic vote that the colouring of the replacement synthetic court surfaces should be dark in-play areas and paler green surrounds. The new surfaces are being widely enjoyed. Lowering of part of the fence around court 3 has improved the view from the cafe/bar. A crowdfunding initiative in the summer enabled £30,000 to be spent on the upgrade of the changing rooms. Rackets members will appreciate how much this complements the refurbishment of the squash courts. Improvements have been in hand all winter for the grass courts. Ellie Fleming has taken on the challenge of making the Clubhouse environmentally friendly with revised greener schemes. Management and Section Committees can be seen to be continuing in proactive mode to provide all round improvements for members. Forward planning and costings over the next five years are currently being considered with the possibility of changing the four acrylic courts to a synthetic surface or putting at least two floodlit synthetic courts on the grass courts. A work in progress – we never stand still!

## Scheduled Summer Tennis

The summer outdoor tennis season runs from 1st March to 30th September. Summer opportunities to play on pre-booked courts are listed here. Roll ups are on a turn up and play basis. Other sessions are arranged by a leader from a list of regulars and reserves. Please contact Chris B-H (07876 565289) or Cleland (07800 892796) for more information about participation in these sessions.

**Mondays:** Mixed roll up 9.00 am to 11.00 am, suited to those who do not aspire to match play; Men's Play 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm, suited to men close to match level; TennisNuts 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm, suited to lower team players

**Tuesdays:** Social tennis roll up 5.30 pm to 8.00 pm, suited to non-competitive players

**Wednesdays:** Men's roll up 10.00 am to 12.00 noon, suited to non-competitive men; Ladies roll up 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm, suited to ladies who do not aspire to match play; Men's Match Practice 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm, suited to team members

**Thursdays:** Ladies night from 6.30 pm for ladies of team or near team standard. Newcomers of near team standard are welcome and can be put into games by a female committee member present

**Fridays:** Men's play, 11.00 am to 1.00 pm, suited to men close to match level

**Saturdays:** Men's roll up 9.00 am to 11.00 am, suited to men at lower team level; Saturday social roll up 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm, suited to adults and children over 14 at all levels

## Competitive Tennis

**Club Tournament:** The Club Tennis Tournament is the most significant club competitive tennis event of the year. The draw is made in May with set dates for completion of successive rounds leading up to a Finals Day. A much-appreciated feature is that progress through the rounds is continuously updated on-line. Another attractive feature is the playback-style plate event which ensures that all entrants get two matches for each event entered. Entry is £5 per player to include all events entered, so it is worthwhile to enter multiple singles and/or doubles events. The entry form is supplied by email to members and is available for download from the club website. Finals Day is on Saturday 3rd September.

Closing day for entries: Friday 29th May

## ITF Seniors Tournament

The ITF100 Seniors Tournament will be held over October 6th - 9th, singles and doubles, for Women 40/50/60s, Men 45/55/65s. Club members are encouraged to enter. The event was held for the first-time last year and proved a considerable success, with Chris Skinner & Paul Burgess winning the Over 45 Men's' Doubles and Penny Smith winning in the Over 40 Ladies Doubles.

## Club Teams

Teams have been entered in the national team tennis competition. Teams compete at various levels in the county leagues. If you are interested in playing in a team, please contact a team captain as listed here.

Men's captains: A Chris Skinner, B Ben Westwood, C & D Joel Talcott, E Rupert Parsons

Ladies' Captains: A Katy Lewin, B Caroline Forester-Smith, C Penny McKechnie, D Pam Webber

Mixed Captains: A Katy Lewin, B Chris Barr-Hamilton, C John Milton, D Paula Daniel

## Singles Ladder

An on-line singles ladder replaces the box leagues. Please ask at the Club Office if you wish to be included.

## Charity Tournament and Lunch

Thursday 23 June from 9 am to 1 pm, followed by an excellent lunch, in aid of 'Hearing Dogs for Deaf People'

## Robfest

Saturday 25 June, a doubles event organised by Rob Redman.

## Benjamin Cup

Saturday July 16, a mixed team event organised by Chris Barr-Hamilton.

## England v Rest of the World

Saturday 13 August, a doubles event organised by Rob Redman.

## Save the Children Ladies Tournament

A ladies' doubles event on Wednesday 7 September 9.30 am to 1 pm with lunch included. Further details from Cleland Newton.

## Ripple Cup

Saturday September 24, a men's doubles event organised by Chris Skinner.

## Members' Health

Tennis members are reminded that there are two defibrillators at the Club, one in the foyer just inside the clubhouse main door and one in the outdoor bowls pavilion. These are in alarmed cabinets, accessed by using a mobile phone, with full instructions for use supplied down the phone. In this respect it is desirable for as many tennis players as possible to gain tuition in CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation). Free courses are provided from time to time at the Club and are held by Heartstart Malvern on two evenings a month at St Andrews Church Centre in Churchdown Road, Poolbrook. The relevance is emphasised by the recent death of a table tennis player during a match in the table tennis room, in spite of full resuscitation efforts by club members. Our sympathy is extended to the member's family and to the families of three long standing members who have died recently, Mike Lane, Denise Brodrick and Ann Hirst.