

Club Social Calendar

Mixed Doubles	Saturday 28 September
H & W LTA Dinner	Saturday 12 October
Tennis Section AGM	Tuesday 19 November
Christmas Party	Friday 20 December
Club New Year Dinner	Saturday 8 February 2020
New Season Evening	Tuesday 7 April 2020
Wimbledon Ballot	April 2020
Tournament Finals	September 2020

Grand Slam Tournament (RobFest) 2019

The 4th Annual Grand Slam Tournament (RobFest) took place on Saturday 29th June with 48 players taking part in this hugely successful and enjoyable event which was followed by a super Grand Slam Evening Party in the Café Bar. The winners were:

- Wimbledon - Mike Marks & Chris Marlow
- US Open - Rory Guiding & Geoff Smith
- French Open - Grant Hume & John Milton
- Australian Open - David Wilson & Pete Moore

2nd Annual Benjamin Cup Saturday 20th July

6 teams comprised of 8 players each again took part in this competitive and fun event held in memory of the hugely popular Prof. Mike Benjamin who sadly passed away in August 2017. This year's winning team were The Professors: Rich Tuck, Pete Clarke, Katie Lewin, Bob Mannion, Laszlo Radnai, Ali Tuck, Steve Lewis, James Laidler. The individual best lady and gentleman player prizes were awarded to Alison Earp and Rob McCarthy.



England v the Rest of the World Event 2019

On Saturday 17th August the 4th Annual England vs The Rest of the World Ladies & Gentlemen's Doubles Tennis Match took place at the club with 54 players from Manor Park and nearby clubs taking part in this fun and hugely popular event. For the first time in the history of the event, the match was won by England overcoming a spirited performance by The Rest of the World Team by 324 games to 283. The winning team

enjoyed a lovely glass of prosecco very kindly provided by John Milton. This year's event was very kindly sponsored by Blackpole Recycling Ltd and The Pickled Plum Restaurant & Pub Pershore and was followed by a sumptuous Gourmet BBQ prepared by Jill Holmwood and her team of helpers for players and their family and friends and live music provided by the amazing local band '4 The Record' in the busy Cafe Bar which was enjoyed by all.

Editorial

Since the café has been installed there has been increasing demand from the many members who play and watch regularly the competitive activities which take place at the club and at long last we now have an improved view from the Café/Bar! We are also very pleased to report that floodlights will be installed on the two clay courts. The work is due to begin on October 14th so by the time the clocks go back we will have eight floodlit courts to meet the demands on court usage.

Wimbledon Draw Opt-In Thanks to many more members opting-in to the Wimbledon Ballot the club received more tickets for those who are keen to attend the Championships. So club members do please ensure that you do this again – the email has already gone out from the LTA so please don't delay and just opt in today! The more members who opt in the more tickets get allocated to Manor Park.

Club Website: www.manorparkmalvern.com

Thanks to a small group of members from all sporting sections improvements have been made to the club website and hopefully those involved as section administrators now have a far better understanding of how to update information on the website. So members do keep looking at it as this is where much of the club news will appear.

H & W Summer Leagues

The highlight of the summer season has been the success of the Ladies' A Team who are 2019 league champions. The team has been represented by Nikki Clarke, Alice Davey, Hannah Griffiths, Ali Kirkwood, Lorraine Ristic, Regina Ristic-North, Penny Smith and Jilly Witcombe. In contrast a run of successes for the Men's A Team came to an end. The team finished third with many of last year's winning team away at university or on business.

My Day at Wimbledon by John Proctor

I was lucky enough to get open ballot tickets for myself and my daughter for men's finals day. Before the match I saw Djokovic about eight yards away with his entourage. The view from our seats was from the gods opposite the royal box where my daughter spotted her idol Benedict Cumberbatch as a guest. By the final set of the match it was clear that 80% of the crowd were for Federer. One exception was an Eastern man two rows from us who kept shouting 'Novak!' loudly. My daughter also supported Djokovic from the third set. After the quality of the Nadal v Federer semi-final we wondered if the final could surpass it – it certainly did by some margin!!

American campus life by Tobie Timmermans

On the 10th August 2018 I embarked on my travels to the United States to study Business and Economics for a year at Oklahoma State University (OSU) on a cultural exchange. Before I left everyone was asking me if I was nervous or sad about leaving home, but I wasn't worried at all. I had wanted to go to University in the US for a long time and this was the perfect opportunity without having to pay the tens of thousands of dollars in fees. Upon my return from the States, I often get asked what my favorite thing about my year was. Here are some of the things I would consider my most interesting experiences about Oklahoma and the US.

One of the first things worth mentioning about an American College Campus like OSU is that everything is absolutely huge. The large sums for college tuition are most certainly put to use for sports facilities. Oklahoma is one of the southernmost states, so the most supported sport is American Football. The town Stillwater, in which OSU is situated, has a natural population of 20,000 people with an additional 30,000 students making up the 50,000 population. The football stadium, Boone Pickens, has a capacity of 55,000, which it fills out every weekend whilst the largest crowd audience I have seen for a huge rugby game in Loughborough is about 1,500. Therefore, on game days the town is absolutely packed out with people. Huge quantities of food, alcohol and orange sporting memorabilia would fill the streets and create a buzz and support for the team unlike any college sporting event in the UK. This money and support did continue to fund the tennis team where all 6 players were world ranked with the support of a 6 indoor, 12 outdoor court stadium with personal changing rooms, hot tubs and ice baths all funded by global sponsors Nike and Babolat, which I was lucky enough to enjoy through hitting with some of the players.

Although, I did not play tennis for the team, I did manage to join the rugby team which gave me access to the true Oklahoma experience. Many of the boys I played with were real 'cowboys' who shot guns, owned ranches and drove trucks. With the team, I managed to experience a true family thanksgiving, travel around to New York, Las Vegas, Los Angeles and Miami, went skiing in Colorado, and in between classes I would chill out by the pool and at the lakes in the 35 degree temperatures. It was truly the exact year I had hoped for and more, and I plan to live in the States upon graduation from Loughborough.

St Richards Charity Event

Eighteen pairs competed in the 2019 Manor Park charity tennis event. This year the event was held in support of St Richard's Hospice. The group winners all won a free hour of coaching with the Malvern Academy team. Group winners were Elaine Fleming and Jill Piner (Wimbledon), Sue Lole and Wendy Griffiths (Flushing Meadow), Sarah Connell and Janet Murray (Roland Garos) and Anna Reed and Elizabeth Chaplin (Melbourne Park). The day raised £550 for St Richard's Hospice.

Save the Children Charity Event

For many years a charity event has been held at Manor Park in September to support Save The Children. Eight pairs participated on a day of variable weather, but no play was lost to rain. The winners were Penny McKechnie and Ruth Jones with runners up Janet Collings and Julie Chandler. One feature of the event is the buffet lunch brought by supporters of the charity, another is a display of tennis clothes available to order from 'Ask Sal'. The day raised £320 for Save The Children.

Adult rusty rackets

Some newish tennis members (from a foundation level) have made comments that they would like to play more tennis but do not know how to go about organising this. A scheme is under consideration for Saturday mornings, possibly on the clay courts from 10 am to noon. If you would be interested, please email manorparkevents@gmail.com so that a list of names can be obtained for this group. You will be made aware of finer details in due course.

Tennis Section AGM on 19 November at 7.30 pm

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 21/11/2018
3. Matters Arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Election of Officers and Committee
6. Any Other Business

Ron Bridgemen and Bev Robinson

Two members of long standing have recently died. Ron Bridgeman will be remembered by many as organiser of rotas for indoor tennis on winter Tuesdays and organiser of social tennis on summer Tuesday evenings. Bev Robinson was a popular member of the social tennis crowd who also played bowls. Many club members attended his funeral at the new crematorium at Fladbury

Tennis Coaching

Sessions begin as from Saturday 14 September.

Adult Coaching Groups – Indoor Acrylic

Tuesday 9.00 – 10.30 am

Wednesday 9.30 – 12.30 p.m.

Junior Outdoor Groups

Older Tennis 14 – 18 years

Monday 7.30 – 8.30 p.m.

Green to Young Teens 11 – 14 years

Monday and Thursday 6.30 - 7.30 pm

Orange/Green 9 – 10 years

Monday and Thursday 5.30 – 6.30 pm

Saturday 10.00 – 11.00 a.m.

Red Mini Tennis 3– 8 years indoors

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 4.30 – 5.30 pm

Saturday 9.00 – 10.00 am

Drills Sessions starting in October

Drills Session with Lucy Sanders on Wednesdays

7.00 - 8.00 pm. and Fridays 1.30 – 2.30 pm

Ring Lucy for details: 07713 463586

Tennis Committee 2018-2019

Chairman:	Jane Poynder
Hon. Treasurer:	Geoff Titmuss
Membership Secretary:	Cleland Newton
Hon. Secretary:	Elaine Fleming
Grounds Controller:	Sam Mackenzie
Fixtures Secretary:	Joel Talcott
Club Coach:	Chris Skinner
Child Protection:	Ali Tuck
Committee Members:	Pete Clarke
Anna Laidler	Steve Lewis
Jo Marks	Tracy Morgan
Joe Riley	

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Proposals for **action** may be sent to the Hon Secretary, Elaine Fleming. Please note that proposals made and carried under **Any Other Business** are automatically referred back to the Tennis Committee for further consideration.

Proposal for action by the Tennis Committee:

Proposed by Seconded by

Nomination(s) for the 2019-2020 Season Committee (with consent of nominee):

Proposed by Seconded by To be returned by not later than November 4th to the Tennis Secretary, 7 Carlton Road, Malvern, Worcs. WR14 1HH

Club Tournament

This year's Club Tournament saw over 100 entries competing for 16 trophies over a three month period, culminating in Finals Day on 7th September. The day started with two very close matches both going to a third set decider in the men's singles plate and ladies' doubles plate – with victories for Bob Mannion in the singles and Ruth & Catt in the ladies' doubles. This was followed by a rerun of last year's ladies' singles, with Katy Lewin once again victor over Jilly Witcombe. The ladies' doubles was also a rerun of last year's final with Katy and sister Sally winners over Jilly and Hannah.

Paul Burgess was victorious in the men's singles over John Clarke but lost out with Chris Skinner in the men's doubles to Seb Timmermans and Chris Marlow. Elaine Fleming & Pete Moore had a good day winning both the mixed doubles 50+ and the mixed doubles plate competitions, and Bob Mannion finished off his early morning victory winning the mixed doubles 50+ plate with Paula. The day ended with a very competitive match in the mixed doubles with Paul Burgess & Katy Lewin coming back from a set down to beat Chris Skinner and sister Sally Lewin. Thanks to everyone who entered to make this a great club event, and to all those who came and gave their support on the day.

Club tournament results: Adults

Main events

Men's Singles: Paul Burgess
r/u John Clarke 6-4 4-6 6-4

Ladies' Singles: Katy Lewin
r/u Jilly Witcombe 2-6 6-4 4-3

Men's Doubles: Chris Marlow & Seb Timmermans
r/u Paul Burgess & Chris Skinner 6-2 6-3

Ladies' Doubles: Katy & Sally Lewin
r/u Jilly Witcombe & Hannah Griffiths 6-2 6-4

Mixed Doubles: Katy Lewin & Paul Burgess
r/u Sally Lewin & Chris Skinner 2-6 7-5 6-4

Men's Doubles 60+: Bob Mannion & James Noon
r/u Geoff Titmuss & Graham Upton

Mixed 50+ Doubles: Elaine Fleming & Pete Moore
r/u Ruth Jones & Rob Redman 7-5 5-4

Family Doubles: Paul & Lois Burgess
r/u Sam & James Laidler 6-0 6-7 6-3

Plate events

Men's Singles: Bob Mannion
r/u David Hunt 6-4 4-6 6-4

Men's Doubles: Kevin Hockney & Tony Phillips
r/u Geoff Titmuss & Lee Smith 6-3 6-1

Ladies' Doubles: Ruth Jones & Cattleya Petchsingh
r/u Paula Daniel & Tracy Morgan 2-6 6-4 4-3

Mixed Doubles: Elaine Fleming & Pete Moore
r/u Pia Michelsen & Ian Monaghan 6-1 6-0

Men's Doubles 60+: Julian Clapp & Tony Phillips
r/u Gerry Nash & Jonathan Bailey 6-1 6-1

Mixed 55+ Doubles: Paula Daniel & Bob Mannion
r/u Sarah & Geoff Titmuss 6-0 6-3

Family Doubles: Jade & Grant Hume
r/u Elizabeth & John Clarke 6-1 6-4

Club tournament results: Juniors

8U Singles: Ben Williams r/u Eamon Tan

9U Singles: Will Unstead r/u Monty Cooper

10U Singles: Daisy Williams r/u Maddie Walsh

14U Boys: Sam Cassidy r/u Joe McKay

18U Boys: Samuel Lea r/u Charlie Cassidy

14U Boys Doubles: Joe McKay & Oliver Ruddick
r/u Iskander Abdi & Sam Richardson

10U Doubles: Daisy Williams & Maddie Walsh
r/u Monty Cooper & Will Unstead

Junior competitive highlights

It's been a busy summer season for our junior members at Manor Park. Prior to the summer holidays, a few of our members represented our county cup teams for H&W: Daisy Williams, Bethany Pye, Sam Laidler, Sam Clements, Sally and Katy Lewin. The girls under 12's (Beth) won their group to get to the national finals in Bolton and the boys u12s (Sam and Sam) lost in the group final beaten by Staffs.

Our team tennis has been a success with the boys 14u winning Div 1. Well done Charlie and Sam Cassidy and Thomas and Sam Laidler and also Sam Clements who helped us in our win over Hereford. Lois Burgess and Beth Pye have been playing regularly in the Ladies' teams and Lois was named most improved player winning herself (or her mum) a bottle of prosecco!! Sam Cassidy won the Malvern G5 14u beating his brother Charlie in a close 3 set match. There have been grade 4 wins for Lilia Mico and Daisy Williams at Evesham and Droitwich, Sam Laidler and Sam Cassidy in 14u doubles at Redditch.

Social Tennis for Teenagers

It is proposed to set up a weekly session for children from year 7 upwards to meet to play social tennis at Manor Park, organised by some mums with a non-competitive basis. The scheme is to meet on a Sunday morning at 10.30 am throughout the year for an hour or two. If you are interested, please send an email to: suzannamichael@aol.com.