

CLUB SUMMER CALENDAR

Head Racket Testing	Monday 13 March
County Seniors Doubles	Sunday 23 April
Racketlon Tournament	Saturday 29 April
'Battle of the Sexes'	Saturday 13 May
10U County Cup	20/21 May
Social Tournament & Grass Court Opening	Saturday 20 May
County Mixed	Saturday 10 June
11U County Cup	17/18 June
Charity Doubles	Thursday 22 June
Robfest	Saturday 24 June
Benjamin Cup	Saturday 15 July
Malvern Open	16-22 July
Social American Evening	Tuesday 25 July
Rest of World Event	Saturday 19 August
H&W County Closed	20-25 August
Club Finals Day	Saturday 2 September
Ripple Cup	Saturday 23 Sept
Social Mixed Doubles	Saturday 30 September
ITF Senior Tournament	5-8 October

Editorial

Despite rising energy costs, it has been agreed that the tennis subscription will only be increased by 5% this year and we hope very much that members will appreciate this. Tennis has been thriving and we hope with the on going support and enthusiasm of our membership that the club will continue to thrive. We look forward to a successful summer season and hope that the newly levelled grass courts will play well albeit that a long term aim is that eventually grass might be replaced by astroturf. Much work has gone in to them and we are indebted to Bill Fleming and David Smith for all their hard work along with the input from Steve Lloyd from the Worcestershire Golf Club.

Head Racket Testing

Experts from Head Sports are coming to the club on Monday 13th March from 4.00 p.m. to allow members to have the opportunity to try out rackets free of charge. Any follow on orders can always be organised through the Coaching Team and demo rackets are also available throughout the year.

Adult Groups & Individual Coaching

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

Junior Coaching

Easter camps 3rd - 5th, 11th – 13th April.
Term programme starts as from 17th April.

For full details contact:
tennis@malverntennisacademy.com

**Top flight driveway**

Whether entering Manor Park from Albert Road North on foot or in cars, club members are benefiting from the new tarmac surface on the main drive. Gone are the loose stones and the potholes – using the drive is as smooth as floating on an air cushion. Please drive vehicles with due care for pedestrians and park in accordance with the white lines and the markings.

Disability tennis – calling all volunteers

Manor Park has been selected to host a new initiative entitled 'I Play 30' set up by the charity Bright Ideas for Tennis. The proposal is to target people with any form of disability to come to the club at scheduled times each week and take part in an organised tennis session of at least 30 minutes. We have been delighted with the response from club members to our call for volunteers. But if there are others who would like to be involved then do just email: jane@poyndertennis.com

In order to make the sessions run smoothly we need as many volunteers as possible to receive training. A training session for both coaches and volunteers will be held at Manor Park on Wednesday 29th March from 12.00 – 3.00 pm led by either Mark Bullock or Stuart Wilkinson who both have over 25 years' experience in disability sport. Disability tennis sessions will then take place indoors on Wednesdays from 1.30 to 2.30 pm with pupils from Riverside School starting on 19th April and continuing on a regular basis throughout the term.

Former British Davis Cup player and friend to the club Danny Sapsford is leading the campaign and as you may recall Manor Park was extremely fortunate in having his support along with Luke Milligan when we ran our very successful fund-raising event in 2019. This involved on court coaching sessions, an exhibition match and a dinner followed by a charity auction which raised over £7000 for our tennis development fund.

Scheduled Summer Tennis

The summer outdoor tennis season runs from 1st April 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 non team players; 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 team players

Wednesdays: Men's roll up 10.00 am to 12.00 noon, suited to non team players; Ladies roll up 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm, suited to non team players; Men's Match Practice 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm, suited to team players

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 Ali Tuck – email: ali@btinternet.com

Fridays: Ladies morning 9.30 am to 11.00 am, suited to non team players; 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

Our many teams have been competing throughout the winter and all league results can be found on the H&W website. Our thanks as always to all the hard working captains who make these matches work and to Joel Talcott who co-ordinates the fixtures. We look forward to more Trophies in the summer season. If you are interested in playing in a team, please contact a team captain as listed here. Men's captains: A Paul Burgess, B Mike Marks, C Stuart Ramsay, D Joel Talcott, E Rupert Parsons, Ladies' Captains: A Katy Lewin, B Caroline F-Smith, C Penny McKechnie, D Pam Webber, Mixed Captains: A Katy Lewin, B Ben Westwood, C Chris Barr-Hamilton, D Paula Daniel

Club Tournament: The Club Tennis Tournament is the most significant club competitive tennis event of the year. A much-appreciated feature is that progress through the rounds is continuously updated on-line. Another attractive feature is the playback-style plate event ensuring 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 available on the club website. Finals Day: Saturday 2nd September. Closing day for entries: Friday 26th May.

ITF World Masters Tour 100 Great Malvern

This autumn will see Manor Park hosting our third ITF tournament from 5th to 8th October 2023. We are very fortunate to have been invited to host this event as these introductory 'ITF Masters 100' events have so far only been held elsewhere at Newquay and Ipswich. Across all events played we received an approval rating of 6.1 out of a maximum score of 7 on player feedback.

In the inaugural (COVID) year Manor Park players did well with Penny Smith, Chris Skinner and Paul Burgess taking titles. In 2022 Alice Davey and Rory Guilding were singles winners with Penny Smith and Rachel Prudden both being singles runners up. In the doubles Mike Marks and Geoff Smith won their event with Alice Davey and Liz Lewin, Chris Skinner and Paul Burgess all being runners up. We look forward to another successful tournament and hope that many more Manor Park players will have a go at competing. These tournaments are fun and welcoming, played in a friendly but competitive atmosphere. Sign up online and get an IPIN to enable you to enter the relevant event. The website is <https://www.itftennis.com/en/itf-tours/itf-world-tennis-masters-tour/> We are particularly grateful to Shipman Financial Planning for supporting our tournament.

Singles Ladder: to join the on-line singles ladder please ask at the Club Office

Social Tournament: Saturday 20th May, an opportunity for all levels to come together and play doubles on the grass

Charity Tournament and Lunch: Thursday 22nd June from 9 am to 1 pm, followed by an excellent lunch, in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support

Robfest: Saturday 24th June, a doubles event organised by Rob Redman

Benjamin Cup: Saturday 15th July, a mixed team event organised by Chris Barr-Hamilton

Social American Evening: Tuesday 25th July, a mixed doubles event for social tennis players organised by Cleland Newton

England v Rest of the World: Saturday 19th August, a doubles event organised by Rob Redman

Ripple Cup: Saturday September 23rd, a men's doubles event organised by Chris Skinner

Social Mixed Doubles: Saturday 30th September, a mixed doubles event for social tennis players

Indoor tennis

MACIT is no more.- on 1st January indoor tennis became the responsibility of the Club Management Committee. Since July 2022 indoor court booking, has involved online payment of court fees. If the new court booking system presents a difficulty, for adults or juniors, please contact the Club Office for assistance.