

2016 TENNIS COACHING PROGRAMME

ANNUAL REPORT

Members will be familiar with the comprehensive coaching opportunities your team of coaches deliver within the advertised summer and winter programmes.

On the adult front this ranges from regular weekday sessions for various standards and includes singles play, Cardio Tennis and Tennis Express. Team practice sessions have been enhanced by occasional clinics being run by former Davis Cup player, Jonathan Smith.

On the junior front the coaches deliver a full programme on Saturdays and after school on a year round basis. Our schools programme covers a number of East Wight schools where we continue to develop outreach partnerships.

Notable in this area and applauded by the LTA (and Judy Murray!) was the embracing of the Miss-Hits initiative by our three female coaches.

As well as our schools programme we host the schools mini red festival annually in May and both Easter and Summer holiday courses. This helps to promote awareness of the club in the wider community. We are often reminded however that the Club profile and marketing could generally be improved. We will address these issues during the year.

Despite still having the use of the Ryde School sports hall for the winter, retention of the younger players, particularly during this period, is a continuing challenge due largely to our unpredictable climate. The Tennis Committee has started discussions to address this and the wider issues.

Coach education training and licensing requirements continue to be attained by the coaching team through attendance at workshops and conferences throughout the year. Last Tuesday the Club was represented by three coaches at the LTA's Coach Forum at Portsmouth where the Davis Cup legacy was being promoted together with enhancements to Clubspark.

We have a number of junior coaches being mentored by the team one of whom, Luke Sauven, is in the middle of his Level 1 course.

This will be the first time in 19 years that we do not undertake our annual jaunt to Eastbourne. Instead we will trial this year a visit to Roehampton on 21st June 2016 for the Wimbledon qualifying event. This will be in addition to our usual juniors visit to the the Championships on 6th July.

Finally I would like to express formally my thanks to our coaching team and Diana Harris for their commitment and to the Tennis and Management Committees for their continued encouragement and support.

David Fothergill

3 February 2016

Head Coach