

Burnham Tennis Association
March 2016 News Letter

Dear Member

Welcome to the start of our 39th season.

After no increase in membership fees last year we have made a small adjustment this season. The reason for this is that it is clear we need to pay to have the courts power washed and painted more often than planned if we are to keep them in good order, and it is also planned to also have a contract for the regular cleaning of the courts, vacuuming, sweeping and dealing with the weeds as we are finding it is difficult to keep on top of these tasks.

In fact it is our intention to have No. 3 Court power washed and repainted towards the end of April - we will let you know the exact dates when we have them (this is always partly weather dependent).

We have identified a list of jobs which need to be completed over the summer such as painting the barge boards over the front canopy. If you see something that needs doing please flag it up as we may have missed it.

One thing we will be asking members to contribute is an hour of their time to a club house spring clean. This is something our neighbours, the Bowls Club do regularly and would set the club house up for the summer. Details will follow.

We will be changing the access code on 1st April for everyone who has paid the new season's subscriptions. So please ensure you have returned your new membership form, together with payment, to Sue Gray as soon as possible, otherwise you won't know about the new code. We offered the facility to pay directly from your bank account last year which was very successful, so we are now incorporating it permanently into the process. If you pay this way please ensure you give the appropriate details so that the Treasurer knows from whom the payment has come.

Our regular social tennis sessions continue throughout the year and are currently scheduled at the following times:

Sunday morning	9.30 - 11.30
Monday afternoon	1.30 - 3.30
Thursday evenings	7.00 - 9.00
Friday Mornings.	9.0 - 11.30

Thursday evening are particularly valuable for members who are working and for much of the year this session is played under floodlights which are free from 19.00 to 21.00. Please come and join them - you don't need a partner to play at these times.

As ever the club will continue with interclub matches. The schedule for home matches is included in the programme which will be sent out in the next few days and apart from 3 men's matches all the others are only 2 pairs, therefore court 3 will be available. This information is included in the programme.

The membership form includes details of the club's Junior and Senior Championships, which this year will be held on for **Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th July** respectively. **Entry really is open to all.** We always have either a round robin format, or a plate competition, so everyone gets at least two

matches. Please sign up early so that we can organise the schedule by the end of April. This year the main championships will be organised by Richard Fox, and we need entries by **16 April**. Again we are making no charge in order to encourage people to enter.

We continue to offer a whole variety of coaching led by our Head Coach Nigel Mann. There are sessions for juniors on Saturday Mornings from 9am to 1pm, with Adult sessions at various times during the week. We are particularly pleased to be able to offer evening sessions for the match players and for inexperienced/rusty racquets players on Mondays. Nigel will send out details as each new course commences but if you want more information in the meantime please contact him.

Sue Gray will also be continuing with her popular mini tennis coaching from 3.30pm to 6.30pm which is followed by the ladies coaching at 6.30.

We have once again scheduled a major family tournament. It is scheduled for Monday 4th May. It will follow the format of last year and be a doubles Red Ball tournament with juniors playing with an appropriate adult (parent, guardian or any other family friend who is over 18). It will be run in conjunction with the LTA and therefore the winner will have the opportunity to go forward to a mini tennis day at Surbiton Tennis club the weekend prior to their major international tournament.

This time last year we were seeking a new Treasurer. Fortunately Keith Paskins agreed to remain in post a little longer, but we now have a vacancy for a Secretary. The main responsibilities are to act as our meeting and minutes administrator. We only meet 6 times a year plus an AGM so the role is not too onerous. If anyone would like to volunteer please speak to myself, Peter Downes or any committee member.

Can we wish everyone a successful and fun year of tennis.

Burnham Tennis Association Committee