

Oswestry Team Tennis



www.oswestryteamtennis.co.uk



Competition Day Saturday 7th May



Club Open Day 21st May

NEWSLETTER No 18 – SUMMER 2022

Welcome

I hope you are all okay, surviving our very hot weather, and enjoyed watching Wimbledon with so much British success. For those of you lucky enough to go there, please can you provide Blake with photos so he can put them up on our Facebook page.

Ben, if you did not know already is reducing his working hours at OTT in September. Ben has started another career working in nature which he will cover in his report below. We of course hope it will go well for him in this respect. I have known Ben since he was 11 years old so really proud to have played a part in his life from that age and for him to become the role model that he is. I am pleased to report that we have Blake and Kobe stepping up to the mark to ensure no coaching hours are lost to the club coaching programme in the autumn. We are losing Nia who is going to University in September, so thank her for her valuable support, and wish her well for the future.

Our Clubhouse to be – with your help!

Gavin Porritt, Stephen Welti and I will be having a meeting with Oswestry Town Council this week, so we will regroup in early September to take our project forwards on its next journey, including topping up our finances to complete the project with grant aid and fundraising.

This will be your amazing clubhouse but we do need your help to complete it both our juniors and adults, so please do get involved!

Membership 2021/22 and 2022/23 Update

Thank you to all of our 180 members this year. To remind you that at the AGM in March, it was agreed to keep members subscriptions at last year's level in view of the cost of living increases that we are all suffering from. In mid August, you will be receiving your request for 2022/23 subscription from Blake, so I hope you will pay promptly so that we do not have to spend time chasing you.

Coaching Programme - Tennis2You

Many thanks must go yet again to Ben/ Blake, Nia and Kobe who oversaw the Tennis2You coaching programme which plays such an important part for our club. Ben's coaching report on behalf of Tennis2You is shown below

Ben reducing his hours in September



This summer has been a spectacle at the club, we have seen so much good tennis being played on our courts. The open day held back in May was something special, we had over 50 children come down to see what we do and have a go at tennis, it was a busy day and great fun. We had all our young helpers down that day and even had to rope in some extras as we had too many kids for the space we had, but the courts have not been that full for a long time and it was great to see.

We also ran our mini's and Play your Way to Wimbledon competitions which were a huge success and great to see so many kids competing and enjoying themselves. In June we were in the park for the Community Games, we had a few nets out and rackets and balls and we got children of all ages playing tennis, the day was amazing and it was great to see so many happy faces. Since the open day and Community Games in June, we have welcomed some new faces the club and already they have started improving and wanting to play more tennis and I hope they keep going in this direction.

We have now come to the end of this summer's term of coaching and there will be some clubs running through the holiday with Blake on Tuesday and Wednesday from 4.30pm. Information on this has been emailed out and is on our Facebook page, so please check this out and book on if you are interested.

The next term of tennis will start in the second week on September and as many of you now know, I will not be there all week, as from September I am reducing my hours and Blake will be taking full control of coaching at the club. The decision to reduce my hours is because I will be making the move to Llanberis to live with my girlfriend and start working towards a different career path. I have been very interested in working outside with nature for well over 2 years now and in this last year I have been working with my friend on his organic fruit tree nursery. I have been learning about growing fruit trees, planting orchards and all the other exciting parts there are to managing the land in a regenerative way. This is something I love doing and as I start my new adventure in the mountains, I will be setting my roots and finding new opportunities to work in nature in a sustainable way and even do a little bit of tennis from time to time.

From September I will just be coaching on Mondays and Tuesdays, so I will still see some of you who attend those days and when I am ever around on the weekends, I will be sure to pop down and say hello. It has been tough saying goodbye to many of you this week, it has been amazing watching many of you grow up from very small kids in mini reds to tall teenagers and see how much your game has come on. Some of you I have known for a few years or even a few months and weeks and your tennis has changed so much, you are playing matches and having rallies with me or even one another, these new levels of your tennis bring smiles to my face. I hope you keep this up under Blake and Kobe who will be running my sessions on Fridays and Saturdays. Kobe who is going through his coaching qualifications has competed at a high level of tennis, having played for county and winning numerous county closes and other competitions, his experience will be of great use to many of you. Some of you may already know him from helping out with my sessions and I'm sure you will all show him the kindness you have showed me. Kobe will also be running Nia's mini orange session on Saturdays, as she too moves off to university. She has worked for us for a few years now, running the mini oranges for the past year and doing wonders to their tennis and I would like to thank her for all her hard work.

Finally I would just like to thank you everyone at the club for supporting me over the years and to the club who supported me by funding my Level 3 coaching qualification, the kindness of your hearts allowed me to fulfil a passion that I have loved doing for 8 years.

Competitions

On Saturday 7th May from 1pm-3pm, we ran a mini red, orange and green ball competition. This was a fun event and the children played some fun matches against each other, with the help of some young assistants umpiring their matches. This is a time to put into practice little things they have learnt in their sessions and most importantly have fun, and there will be another one to enjoy on Saturday September 17th.

Play your way to Wimbledon



Congratulations go to Alfie Edwards, Matei Balasa and Maisie Anderson for coming through our event and representing OTT in the County tournament in Shrewsbury in June.

Sunday morning Adult / Junior doubles tournie

These monthly events have been introduced to encourage our juniors to learn and enjoy playing doubles. Our next one will be on Sunday 21st August, so please look out for invite.

Club Open Day

On Saturday 21st May from 1pm-3pm, OTT On Saturday May 21st, we held an open day as part of a LTA national promotion, and it again proved a great success with people queuing up before the gates were opened to take part! Congratulations to Blake for his Radio Shropshire interview promoting the day! (I really enjoyed listening to it!!)

Oswestry Community Games – Sunday 12th June Cae Glas Park



OTT played its part very well on this community day including our volunteers helping from the outset. Ben and Blake were in the park, we had activity on our courts throughout the day, and we recruited new members!

Dates for your Diary!

Weekly sessions in August starting Tuesday 2nd / Wednesday 3rd August Summer Holiday Tennis Programme – see attached

Saturday 17th September – 1pm onwards Club Competition Day

Sunday 16th October – 1pm onwards Club Celebration Day including Annual Awards

Have a great Summer holiday and please don't forget to use your tennis racket!

Clive Knight – Chairman

19.07.2022