



Oswestry Team Tennis



www.oswestryteamtennis.co.uk

NEWSLETTER No 16 – CHRISTMAS 2022



Blake with Elijah Abbots / Club Celebration Day – Sunday 16th October / Team Blake / Blake with Hattie Grindley

I hope you are all okay, looking forward to Christmas now that it is only three weeks away, and **GOOD LUCK** to England in their match against France tonight!

If this is your first newsletter, then you have a very warm WELCOME TO OSWESTRY TEAM TENNIS. I do hope you and your child enjoy being a member and having the amazing opportunity to play and enjoy tennis at such an early age. Many thanks must go yet again to Blake, Ben and Kobe who oversee our coaching programme and play such an important part in helping our club member's progress. Blake's report from Tennis2You is shown a bit further on in our newsletter.

As announced at the Club Celebration Day in October, I confirm I will be stepping down as your Club Chairman at the AGM in early March. I will have undertaken this role for six years now, and feel it is high time someone much younger than me takes this position over! All it requires is enthusiasm to see our children progress, and have a little time to give to the club so it can move forward positively. OTT is a fantastic LTA junior priority club and it has been my privilege to have led the club for so long. I will (though I am sure you will be pleased to hear?!) not be going away but will be continuing to give the club similar levels of my support and time as needed, especially with the Clubhouse project, but as our new Chairman requires!

Please read the section Parent Group / Club new roles below and give serious consideration to how you can help our Club progress positively.

I will shortly be sending out our Sporting Challenge Prediction Quiz entry form for 2023. Questions on specific events range from football to cricket to tennis etc and can easily be found on the internet. Please have a go, especially as profits from the Challenge go to our Clubhouse project! It is fun working out your best predictions with the family over Christmas and then seeing how you actually do! If you need any help or advice on any of the questions, please feel free to contact me.

Last but not least, a big THANKYOU to all 130 of you who have renewed your membership and many thanks to Blake for undertaking this piece of work in his role as Club Membership Secretary. I do hope you will make good use of our courts in addition to our T2U coaching.

Parent Working Group / Club Roles

This is an important part of running our club so a big THANKYOU goes from me to our parents who have stepped up to help us on this group.

At our last meeting, we discussed the need to grow the admin roles the club has so that we can spread the workload more fairly. The existing and proposed roles are shown below:-

- Existing roles
 - Chairman – Clive Knight – stepping down at AGM in March.
 - Treasurer – Helen Shiel
 - Assistant Treasurer – Clive Knight
 - Welfare Officer – Paula Jones
 - Membership Secretary – Blake Strefford
 - Website Coordinator – Joe Shiel
 - Facebook coordinator – Blake Strefford
 - Town Council / Parks key contact – Clive Knight
 - Tennis2You contact – Clive Knight
 - Parent Group – Clive Knight, Alison Hopkins, Ruth Sperring, Helen Shiel, Paula Jones, Catrin Evans, Sarah O'Mahony, Claire Anderson.
- New Committee roles for 2023 :-
 - Clubhouse working group
 - To include –members, internal funding coordinator, external funding coordinator including grant applications, project coordinator, fundraisers in their own right.
 - Social secretary – to oversee club social events set up such as Club Celebration Day.
 - Secretary – to receive external correspondence from the LTA etc
 - Competition Coordinator – to oversee internal and external competition opportunities.

If you would consider taking on any of these roles, however little time you can give, please get in touch with Clive by email or ring me on 07964615858.

Coach Education – grow our own policy success!

As part of our club mission, we encourage our juniors to get involved in volunteering and help with coaching as part of their overall development. It therefore gave me much pleasure to present two cheques of £250 to Kobe Jones and Erin Oakley at our Club Celebration Day. This funding was to support Kobe with his LTA Level 2 course, and Erin Oakley with her LTA Level 1 course. This funding normally comes from internal balances but this year we managed to gain £500 funding from Charlotte Hartey Foundation specifically for this purpose. Many thanks to Karl Hartey and his daughter inspired Foundation who do so much to help young people progress forward positively with their lives.



Kobe, me and Erin and Karl Hartey presenting me with £500 cheque for OTT

Club Celebration Day- Sunday 16th October

Wow what a day at our Club celebration day!

We had over 70 people at our club with over 45 of them playing in our fun parents and child doubles tournament. All players were split into 2 teams (Team Blake and Team Ben) with Team Blake taking the win. Well done to them! Our annual junior awards were also handed out so a huge congratulations to all our winners. We also raised over £300 for our clubhouse fund. A big thank you to everyone who attended the day, I'm sure you will agree it was a fantastic day

Blake led our annual awards ceremony. Well done to all the 2022 winners as follows:-

Full ball Awards - Most improved younger: Geoffrey Li, Most improved (senior): Sam Sperring, Enjoyment: Zak Woddy, Endeavour: Alys McDonald, Commitment: Christie Shiel, Team Spirit: James Foulkes, Achievement younger: shared - Catrin Hopkins, Elana Winstanley and Tilly Weston, Achievement (senior): Alfie Edwards.

Mini Tennis Awards: Most improved girl: Ella Sianchuk, Most improved boy: Thomas Pugh, Commitment: Dylan Evans, Enjoyment award – Freddie Smith, Endeavour: Elijah Abbots, Team Spirit: Hattie Grindley,

OTT Christmas article from Tennis2You – Blake Strefford

First, I would like to thank all parents for braving the cold evenings and mornings, the last couple of weeks so the children can still enjoy their tennis and keep learning. The temperature has definitely dropped after a mild November. Even with the cold weather all the children seem in good spirits. Now moving into the New Year unfortunately the weather isn't going to get warmer and may even get colder so plenty on layers needed for both children and parents standing on the side.

In November we ran a tournament for all ages with 23 children taking part. For most of them it was their first ever tournament there was some great tennis on show and loads of smiles on faces. And we raised over £100 for our clubhouse fund too. The tournament was great for all the players to learn how to play matches and have fun while competing. It was also for the children to put into practice what they have learnt in their lessons and see there is more to tennis than just coming to coaching every week. We have also been working a lot on serve and playing points this term to encourage them to play points and show the child its fun to play matches. I'm looking to run a tournament each term so if your child missed out on the tournament in November keep an eye out for our next tournament.

If you would like to brave the cold and take your child down to our courts outside their tennis lesson please have a look at our coaching schedule on our website to see when the courts are free and then please go to the park keepers and show them your membership card and they will be more than happy to let you onto the courts. I'm always happy to see children down at the courts outside their lessons playing against family members and maybe even teaching them a thing or two.

I would just like to finish off with a BIG thank you to everyone for your support over 2022 and wish everyone a very merry Christmas and Happy New Year. See you all on court in 2023.

External Competition

I was so pleased to see on our facebook page that two of our juniors played in a tournament at Shrewsbury lawn tennis club recently with some success! Elijah Abbots won all his matches and Freddie Smith only lost one match. They then teamed up in the doubles and won. Well done to both of you, and keep it going.

Final thoughts

I trust that you all have a very happy Christmas and New Year, and I hope you all come back refreshed to enjoy the tennis and meet the undoubted challenges of 2023!

Take care

Clive Knight – Chairman

08.12.2022

