

Newsletter



WINTER
2017



Best Wishes for 2017

What an end to 2016, Fergus dressed up as a turkey, Bruce spread a bit of ho ho ho, and as always Hannah lit up the room, ... like a Christmas tree! This was all in aid of the junior Christmas party which was held at the Recreation Grounds in December.

Mearns FM took to the decks and provided the disco and an upbeat compering for the fun activities in store for the kids.

More than 40 of our primary aged juniors attended. Tremendous fun was had by all, topped off with a bowl of ice-cream and jelly. As a small christmas gift each junior received a giant ball on an elastic string, needless to say they were handed out on departure.

A huge thanks to Chris Ann Holt, Mearns FM, all the parents and coaches for organising the event.
(See the highlights in pictures on page 2)

Festive Highlights



The glitz and glam of the STC junior Christmas party!



Musical statues, guess the tennis shot poses!



"The santa look-a-like won't leave me in peace to eat my ice-cream !"

Festive Highlights



Pints and Chips at the Marine!

There were festivities for the adult members too. A large gathering met up at the Marine on Saturday 17th December for the annual fixture of drinks and chips. A good time was had by all.

Boxing Day American Tournament



There was a great turn out on Boxing Day for the tournament with 14 players participating. The group played for 15 minutes before returning to the clubhouse for mulled wine and other refreshments. Back on court for another 15 minutes tennis, back to the clubhouse for some more drinks. This was very much the order of a very enjoyable afternoon.

Our guest, Lisette Juffermans won the best lady performer and received a bottle of white wine. Paul Kirkwood won the best male performer and he received a bottle of red wine.

Latest Activities

Social Tennis

10am- 12pm Sunday
6.30 -9.30pm Monday

American Tournament

1.30-5.30pm 1st Sat of each month

Weekly Adult Tennis Classes

Monday
9.30 - 10.30am Beginners/improvers
10.30 - 11.30am Intermediate

Thursday

6.30 - 7.30pm Beginner/improver

COST £5 member /£7 nonM

Weekly Pre School and Junior Tennis Classes

Monday
1.20 - 2pm UP 4 Tennis
4.00 - 7.30pm Mini tennis

Tuesday

4.00 - 5.00 Junior Elite Squad

Wednesday

3.50 - 6.30pm Mini Tennis
Competition Squads
4.30 - 5.30pm U16 A Squad
(invite only)
5.30 - 6.30pm U16 B Squad
(invite only)

Thursday

11.05 - 11.45pm UP 4 Tennis
4.00 - 7.30pm Mini tennis

Friday

4.00 - 5.00pm Girls Allowed P7+
5.00 - 6.00pm Girls Allowed P4 - P7
5.00 - 6.00pm 12&U Squads

Saturday

10.30- 11.15am Mini Red

Couple Win Tournament

Stonehaven Tennis Club's annual open American tournament on Saturday attracted an entry of 14 couples—including six from Banchory and the Shell Oil clubs—and produced one of the most thrilling finishes of recent years.

The final was an all-Stonehaven affair between Bill Hamilton and Joan Farquhar, and Rodger Horrocks and Meg Duncan, who had had respective semi-final victories by 6-4 over Ken Melville/Kate Tagg, and 6-1 over David Tait/Sheila Buchanan.

All four finalists played close to their best form, and the first climax came when Rodger and Meg saved a match-point at 4-5, 30-40 down, after a 15-stroke rally involving all four players.

Rodger and Meg then moved ahead to take a 6-5 lead, at which point they mistakenly thought they had won—the players having to be recalled to the court by umpire Mike D'Agostino before going on to complete the obligatory 7-5 or tie-breaker format.

Bill Hamilton and Joan Farquhar then took full advantage of their "reprieve," winning the tie-break 7-3, and the set, 7-6.

DISAPPOINTMENT

It was another fine win for the couple who took the 1979 mixed doubles' championship but a bitter disappointment for Meg and Rodger, both of whom are regular first couple players in Stonehaven's league teams—neither having ever won any of the club's major doubles' titles.

Rodger is a finalist in the men's doubles this year, while the Traders' Trophy in a few days time will provide the last opportunity for both players (with different partners) to break their unenviable "ducks".

January American Tournament

Christina Kirkwood and Iain Patience were the winners of the January American Tournament. Twenty players took part in the tournament on the afternoon of 6th January.

There is now a sign-up system for future tournaments so that the organiser, Ben Juffermans, can establish if there are enough players for it to run on the day. A minimum of 8 players are required so please ensure you sign up early to avoid the possibility of the event being cancelled.

(On the left is an extract from the Leader of September 1980 when the STC American tournament was an annual open event)



Ladders and box leagues

More than 40 players have been taking part in the STC singles ladders and doubles box league. These were primarily aimed at our adult members, although a few juniors who have represented the club's adult teams also took part.

The Ladies doubles leagues have seen many close matches across three competitions. In the 'Pink League', Sheila Lilley and Claire MacDonald were the winners, pipping the two Janets (Owen and

Carmichael) to the post on the basis of their head-to-head victory against them, with both pairings winning two out of three matches and having a set difference of 4-3. The outcome of the 'Green League' was a little less complicated with Lesley Patience and Kirsteen McIver winning three out of three to take first place. The organiser expects "FIX" accusations to be thrown at him anytime now!! The 'Blue League' remains incomplete, but with only two matches still to be played Christina Kirkwood and Jemma Critten look like the favourites with two wins out of two.

The men's doubles event has also seen some very tight contests, but with four wins out of four Chris Mearns and Iain Patience currently lead the way. All men's doubles matches are to be completed by the end of January.

The same deadline applies to the singles ladder events. These offer players the chance to challenge the player 1 or 2 places above them on the ladder with their positions switching should the 'challenger' win. The ladies have led the way on this one with every competitor already having played at least one match and plenty of positional moves. There's still time to make your way to the top before the prizes are handed out next month!

Lights and maintenance



Work on the upgrade to the lights on court 1, 2 and 3 will commence in January (weather permitting). Firstly the power supply will be upgraded and the works will be carried out by Hydro Electric. Once this has been completed the new light fittings will be installed.

There should be minimal disruption, if any, to court usage or scheduled classes.

Pictured left are Ben Juffermans and Neil Pritchard carrying out some routine maintenance on the courts. The net-post was removed by drilling a hole through the post and inserting a pin. A solid bar was tied with rope onto the tennis post on top of two hydraulic jacks. The tension was created by pumping up the jacks and a sledge hammer was used to hit the post to slowly remove it.

Competition Round Up

It was a fantastic start to the New Year for Patrick Young who won the 2017 18 & Under Scottish indoor Championships. Patrick beat Douglas MacIntosh in three sets to earn a place in the final. He went on to beat Charlie Miller in a 22 point championship tie-break to take the title. Congratulations Patrick, keep up the great work!



A team of STC juniors met with Judy Murray in December. Gregor McIver, Daniel Tibbetts, Oliver Warner and Ella Johnstone were part of the North East Team that took part in the fun tournament organised by Mrs Murray at Gleneagles.

Competition roundup continued on page



Competition Round Up continued ...

STC players took titles at David Lloyd in December. Patrick Young (*pictured left*) won the men's singles. MeYoung Choi (*pictured centre*) won the senior mixed doubles and Fergus Hermiston (*pictured*) won the men's doubles.

Seven STC juniors took part in the Green Ball Hotshot Tour event at Cults TC in November. Isla McIntosh, Finlay Doney, Gregor McIver and Oliver Warner all remained undefeated and won their groups. Angus Rhind and Ella Johnston both put in strong performances and Brodie McAlpine finished second to Isla in the all girls group. Well done to everyone (*the group are pictured below left*).



In November Daniel Tibbetts travelled south to Bolton for a 9&U inter-regional match between Scotland and the Midlands. All four of his matches were close, going to 3 sets. He had one win, two defeats and then a tied match which was 'timed out' after a 50 minute duel with the talented Midlands no. 1, (*Daniel is pictured below far right in Wimbledon all whites*).

Patrick Young won a 16&U Grade 3 event in Glasgow in November. He bulldozed his way to the final losing only 8 games. In the final he defeated Charlie Miller 6-3, 6-4 to clinch the title.



Competition Round Up continued ...

The Jamie Murray Doubles Cup was held at David Lloyd in Aberdeen in October. STC sent along a team to this fun 14&U event and a great time was had by all the players and their team captain Jenny Munro. Pictured below are James Holt, Cameron Doney, Lily Taylor and Betty Alexander alongside Jenny and the event organiser Kris Soutar. Well done everyone!



Just recently our Chairman noticed an extract from the Tennis Scotland archives. It features a report on a match involving STC coach Bruce McIver in 1990.

The match ended 20-18 in games in the final set! Bruce's opponent Toby Smith is the older brother of the Davis Cup captain Leon.

Perhaps Bruce held the record long before it was broken by Isner and Mahut in their epic 'longest ever tennis match in history' - Wimbledon 2010.

If you have any other historical tennis related articles, please get in touch. We would be interested in sharing these with other members.

Notice Board



Membership

Membership forms can be found on the STC Website and submitted to the Membership Coordinator, Recreation Grounds, Stonehaven, AB39 2RD



AGM

Monday 27th February, 7.30pm
Clubhouse



American Tournament

Saturday 4th February, 1.30pm.
Please sign-up for this event,
details in Clubhouse



AGM

Monday 27th February, 7.30pm
Clubhouse.



Racket restrung £15,
Grips available.
Contact Bruce McIver



Tennis balls for sale.

Rackets £13.
Karakal Grips available for sale
£2.50/£3 depending on
thickness. Contact Sarah on
07764 225705 or ask a coach.

Join us @ Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Stonehaven-Tennis-Club/757908274240462>



STC December Committee - Abbreviated Minutes

Monday 5th December 2016

Update for Lights on Courts 1,2 and 3

Hydro Electric will begin electrical works for the lights in January 2017, weather permitting. There is no expected down time for courts and minimal disruption to classes.

Fencing/Court Maintenance

Andy Thomson is scheduled to do the 6 monthly court surface maintenance.

Coaches Report

All mini tennis classes are running close to or at capacity. The Girls Allowed class is busy. Further promotion of the Thursday evening beginner class will be required in the new year. Box Leagues are going well with lots of matches being played.

Bruce and Fergus are taking the junior coaches to Aberdeen Codonas for Laser Tag as a Christmas night out.

Team Report

There will be a Men's Team night out arranged for Christmas. All league matches and match practice sessions have now stopped over the winter period.

Junior Report

Chris-Ann reported that 30 children are expected to attend the junior Xmas party organised for 11th December, and catering for the kids will be provided by the recreation grounds café.

Club hoodies and rackets to be advertised on Facebook in run up to Xmas. New orders have been made but Chris Ann's phone number is listed incorrectly on the Website

Membership Updates / Renewals

It was agreed that any 'new' membership from now on will include the full 2017/18 subscription.

AOB

NE Tennis Development

FH reported on the NE Tennis Development Meeting. Tennis Scotland were promoting new initiatives like the Big Tennis Weekend, however it was felt that these initiatives were aimed at clubs needing to grow membership or develop a coaching programme.

NESTLA AGM

Stonehaven missed the invite for the AGM. HB will contact Sheila and ask for the minutes and the date for the February meeting.

STC AGM

Date set for Monday 27th February at 7.30pm. Sarah Hornsby will be stepping down as Team Rep but was prepared to continue administrating the Wimbledon Ballot. Thank you to Sarah for all her efforts over the last few years.

American Tournaments

BJ has pinned up a sign-up sheet for the Boxing Day tournament. The November American Tournament was cancelled because there were only 7 players in attendance and a minimum of 8 players are required. In future, a sign-up sheet will be available for all American Tournaments and if less than 8 people sign up, the even will be cancelled.

**If you have any ideas, issues or faults to report on any other club matter,
please e-mail stonehaventennisclub@gmail.com
If you require further information on mini tennis, please e-mail
stonehaven.minitennis@gmail.com**