

Berkshire League Tennis at Caversham LTC

Summer 2010

Issue No. 6

Summer Leagues

The summer tennis matches were again marked by the huge disparity in post match refreshments provided by the men's and the ladies' teams, the ladies providing paninis, exotic breads, salads quiches and home baked cakes. Often, unprompted by the opposition, vegetarian alternatives are served. The men's teams continue to offer jam sandwiches and the odd biscuit!

AEGON Team Tennis (previously known as NCL)

Ladies' Teams

Ladies' 1st Team captained by **Katherine Pike**, were playing in the second tier of the **National Club League**, finished in 4th place, comfortably retaining their place for next season.

Ladies' 2nd Team captained by **Hayley Underwood** achieved a mid-table finish in the **Berkshire League**.

Men's Teams

The Men's 1st Team captained by **Paul Lomas**, finished seventh of eight teams in the **National League, South West Tier**, and face an anxious wait to see if they have retained their place in the top division next season. It is probably worth stressing that many of the opposition were nationally ranked players playing full time tennis!

The Men's 2nd Team also captained by **Paul Lomas**, playing in **Berkshire County Division 1** of the **Aegon Regional Division**, also struggled, winning only one match of five, and will be relegated next year, joining the 3rd Team in Division 2.

The 3rd Team captained by **Duncan Ross** managed an equal number of victories and defeats, and have thus avoided both promotion and relegation.

The Berkshire League Results

Ladies' Teams

The Ladies' 1st Team captained by **Sarah Baker** again dominated **Division 1**, winning all five of their matches, for the second season in a row, and finished a massive six points above the second place team.

The Ladies' 2nd Team also captained by **Sarah Baker** finished 3rd of six in **Division 2**, a mere one point behind the second placed team.

The Ladies' 3rd Team captained by **Ellen Kruidenier**, after promotion to **Division 3B**, struggled with only one win out of five matches, and has unfortunately been relegated.

The Ladies' 4th Team captained by **Sue Gold**, in **Division 5A**, were slightly unfortunate to finish second from bottom, being one of four teams that won only two matches, and are relegated.

Men's Teams

The Men's 1st Team captained by **Paul Lomas**, reclaimed first place in **Division 1**, finishing three points ahead of the Maidenhead 1st Team. It must have been particularly satisfying to have beaten the Windsor 1st Team (last year's champions!) in the last match of the season, to clinch the title.

The Men's 2nd Team captained by **Steve Ratcliffe**, also in **Division 1**, finished in last place, despite winning two matches, and will therefore be relegated.

The Men's 3rd Team, captained by **Mike Brooks**, struggled in **Division 3A**, finishing fifth out of six, and will be relegated.

The Mens' 4th Team, also captained by **Mike Brooks** finished bottom of **Division 4B**, and will also be relegated.

The Mens' 5th Team captained by **Dudley Jones**, secured a comfortable mid-table place in **Division 5A**.

Mixed Teams

The 1st Team captained by **Steve Ratcliffe**, finished in second place in **Division 1**, a mere one point behind the winners.

The 2nd Team captained by **Carol Hewson**, also in **Division 1**, finished fourth of six, and so retain their place for next season.

The 3rd Team, captained by **Mike Brooks**, struggled in **Division 3A**, but managed to finish fourth of six, avoiding relegation by one point.

The 4th Team, also captained by **Mike Brooks**, found life much easier in **Division 5B**, after relegation from Division 4B last summer, and won all five of their matches, and thus finished champions. They can look forward to tougher matches again next summer!

The 5th Team captained by **Tracey Hart**, finished fourth of six in **Division 6B**, narrowly avoiding relegation, after a dramatic win away at Shinfield in the last match of the season.

Vets Tennis

We are still awaiting the final League tables for the Vets Leagues.

The Ladies' A Team captained by **Penny Waldie** has won all their matches, and are presumably champions in **Division 1**.

The Ladies' B Team captained by **Ruth Brooks** won half their matches in **Division 8**.

The Men's A Team captained by **Barry Kochanek**, finished in second place in **Division 1**, having been beaten in the final match of the season by a very strong Maidenhead team, who became the season's champions!

The Men's B Team, captained by **Mike Brooks** in **Division 2**, matched their now traditional bad start, with a fairly bad finish. They may or may not have avoided relegation to the previously unplumbed depths of **Division 3**. Relegation would be a shame as a number of club members achieve Vet status next season, and this should strengthen the team. A list of names of the new vets is available from the club office at a small fee, a much larger fee would buy the list of Vets ladies!

Once again our thanks go particularly to the Team Captains, but also to all the members who have represented the Club.

A huge thank you is also due to our very fine **Ladies' Captain, Sarah Baker**, who is stepping down having done an excellent job.

A special mention too, to **Steven Ratcliffe**, who is stepping down having successfully captained a Mixed and a Mens' Team for the last two seasons.

Last, but not least, our gratitude go to **Dudley Jones**, who has a unique claim to fame as the only man to have captained each of the five of the men's teams at some point in his illustrious and continuing tennis career! He has now decided to retire graciously from captaincy. It feels like the end of an era!

Winter Leagues

The Winter Season started on the first weekend of October.

Caversham have four Ladies' Teams:

1st Team captained by **Sarah Baker** in **Division 1**.

2nd Team also captained by **Sarah Baker** in **Division 2**.

3rd Team captained by **Ellen Kruidenier** in **Division 6**.

4th Team captained by **Sue Gold** in **Division 7**.

We have five Men's Teams:

1st Team captained by **Paul Lomas** in **Division 1**.

2nd Team captained **Duncan Ross** in **Division 2**.

3rd Team captained by **Howard Willis** in **Division 4**.

4th Team captained by in **Mike Brooks** Division 5 West.

5th Team captained by **Andy von Glehn** in Division 6 West.

We have four **Mixed Teams**:

1st Team captained by **Andy Bonney** in Division 1.

2nd Team captained by **Carol Hewson**, also in Division 1.

3rd Team captained by **Mike Brooks** in Division 4.

4th Team captained by **Tracey Hart** in Division 11.

Both the AEGON Leagues and the Vets Leagues will recommence in the spring.

The Club continues to offer competitive tennis to members across a wide spectrum of ability. Any members keen to take part should make themselves known to the **Men's Captain, Mike Brooks**, to the new **Ladies' Captain** (tbc), or to **Maria Choules, the Club Manager**.

The Club Coaches are also encouraged to identify potential team players.

Maria Choules, Club Manager

Sarah Baker, Ladies' Captain

Mike Brooks, Men's Captain

November 19 2010