

# RUDGWICK LAWN TENNIS CLUB

## Newsletter 2015



### Welcome from the Chairman

I am honoured to have been elected as Chair, and I would like to say that I am excited about the future of our club - membership is increasing in all sections, particularly in our junior ranks. Following the AGM we have already held our first committee meeting and the following decisions and plans can already be announced:

- We are increasing subscriptions by a little more than the rate of inflation, as we need to raise income so we can maintain and improve our facilities. This follows a long period of small or nil increases, and we are still very competitive against other local clubs.
- We said last year that we would be introducing more coaching for adults in addition to all the junior coaching taking place. Tuesday and Thursday evening coaching for men and ladies has proved to be very popular, and we intend these to be a permanent fixture.
- In addition to the annual club scratch tournament, we plan to hold a Spring handicapped mixed tournament, with a new cup in honour of the late Peter Jarvis, and a family tournament later in the season.
- We will be gauging interest in starting tennis ladders so that all members can compete against others in both singles and doubles.
- The club will continue to be run digitally via email and the website. Unfortunately the members section of the website is currently broken. We are working on a completely new website to include all existing features such as court booking, but also hopefully some improvements.
- We will be doing some maintenance and other work on the floodlights soon – the increased use of these has raised costs, so your committee will be deciding this year whether we need to start charging for floodlighting.
- We have decided that, for all juniors, at least one parent must become a non-playing member of both our club and RSCC. That means they will be able to access the clubhouse. At present, with some parents being entitled to do so, but others not, real problems are presented for the staff at RSCC, with implications for their licence.
- We have decided to discontinue the historical subscription discount for long-standing veteran members.

Your committee has not changed much although some roles have changed. All previous members have been re-elected for another year, and they have been joined by an additional member, Guy Harrison.

If you want to find out more about how to use and enjoy your clubs' facilities, please contact myself, or any other members of your committee.

Warwick Pistorius 07969 175415 [warwickpistorius@gmail.com](mailto:warwickpistorius@gmail.com)

# rsc.org.uk

## The Facilities

We have 4 courts – two acrylic and two all-weather tarmac, all with top quality floodlights.

These courts are accessed, as is the hut containing the floodlight switches, some spare balls and other incidental furniture, by combination padlocks. Having joined the club you will be informed of the combination numbers.

Please keep the combination numbers to yourselves, do not pass them on to non-members, and please remember to re-set the combinations when leaving if no other members are using the facilities.

The use of the floodlights is currently free for all members. Please leave 15 seconds between switching on each court to avoid tripping the fuses. Please try and use the lights only for the court(s) in use where this is possible. If you turn off lights, leave them for at least 15 minutes, for the lights to cool, before switching them back on.



The clubhouse was opened in November 2006 and is fabulous. Whether or not you have come off the courts you can enjoy a relaxing drink and the other facilities such as snooker, pool, darts and Sky TV. Come and take part in the various events organised by the Rudgwick Social Club - see notice boards for details.

Access to the clubhouse requires an electronic key, for which a £5 deposit is payable - see the subscription form. Electronic keys of existing members will be de-activated on 30 April if, by then, you have not renewed your subscription. You may also be asked to prove you are a member – for which you will need a membership card. For details on how to obtain one, please see the subscription form.

### The website

The club website is currently located on the tennis section of [rsc.org.uk](http://rsc.org.uk) but we are presently considering a new, dedicated tennis club website.

Details of any new website address will be notified to members. It will be similar to the existing website, having some “public” areas, accessible to all, and a “private” area, accessible via a personal login and password.

Please use the website regularly for information about the club’s events.

## Tennis Social Evenings

We hold very successful Friday evening tennis supper sessions, where tennis is followed by an excellent value, two course, home cooked supper. These evenings are held on the last Friday of every month from spring to Autumn – beginning 24th April and ending on 25th September.

Play starts at 7.30pm and the website and regular emails will confirm dates and details, together with how to book your supper place.

## Club Sessions

Monday evening “turn up and play” sessions will begin on 13th April. We are aware that many clubs have more than one such session each week, and if it is clear that there is demand for more, your committee will act



## Sussex League Matches

We currently have 2 ladies teams playing in the Sussex League, with matches being played generally on Sunday mornings. We are always looking for additional players – if you are interested, please contact Jane Gillam on 01403 752088 [jane@franchisetms.com](mailto:jane@franchisetms.com)

## Court Matters

The committee is sure you will all appreciate that there needs to be an order of priority for using the courts. Club sessions, inter-club matches and coaching sessions take priority and may prevent you from gaining access to the courts.

Club sessions are likely to take all four courts, though matches and coaching are more likely to use two courts, leaving two courts available for members' use. if you are unsure about court availability when coaching is taking place, please contact Warwick Pistorius.

Via the members section of the website, you may book courts up to 7 days in advance but bear in mind that we have to trust members to resolve any disputes sensibly – there is no facility at the courts to check the website bookings.

Please remember we are a members' club, and guests may only play with a member up to 4 times a year, on payment of a guest fee of £5 per occasion. Can members please collect guest fees from non-members and pass them to any committee member.

Please report any maintenance or other issues to any committee member.

## Coaching

Our coaches, Warwick and Kathy Pistorius, have great plans and will be flexible to the desires and requirements of members. If the session that you would particularly like is not listed or currently scheduled, please contact them direct – it is quite likely that they will be able to arrange something around you.

We are pleased to welcome Akos Szabo to the coaching team alongside Warwick & Kathy. Akos is a qualified PTR coach and brings European coaching and playing experience to Rudgwick.

Men's and ladies' squad sessions will be held on a Tuesday and Thursday (respectively) from 7.30pm to 9pm at a special reduced price of only £6 per squad session for members. The normal rate for a squad session like this would be £12-£15 per session.



### **Tuesday:**

“Red ball” squads for 5-7 years age - 4pm to 5.30pm.

“Men's squad” – 7.45pm to 9pm

### **Wednesday:**

“Orange ball” squad for 7-9 years and “green ball” squad for 8-11 years - 6pm to 7pm

### **Thursday:**

“Green ball” performance juniors - 6.30pm to 7.30pm

“Ladies squad” – 7.45pm to 9pm

### **Friday:**

“Red ball” squad for 5-7 years - 4pm to 4.45pm

“Yellow ball” by invitation only - 6.30pm to 7.30pm

### **Saturday:**

Squads for all ages and all coloured balls throughout the day

### **Sunday:**

Teenage yellow ball beginners and intermediates - 5pm to 6pm

For details on the cost of these sessions, and to sign up, please contact Warwick and Kathy at [warwickpistorius@gmail.com](mailto:warwickpistorius@gmail.com) or on 07969 175415 (Warwick) and 07912 612296 (Kathy)

Warwick and Kathy can cater for all standards. If you are a complete beginner, don't be afraid to try. They will show you how to gain the ball skills required to enjoy yourself on court. At the top end of the skill spectrum, Warwick has proved that he has the skills and dedication to inspire the best out of players – leading his son, Josh, from non-player status to a world ranking in his under 18, age-group in the space of about five years.



## Wimbledon Tickets



Each year we receive an allocation of Wimbledon tickets from the LTA. These are balloted, and to be eligible for the ballot you must:

1. be a British Tennis member [free through the LTA website] and registered at Rudgwick Tennis Club
2. have “opted in” to the process by going onto the LTA website, and then logging on as an BT member.

The numbers of our members doing both of the above will decide how many tickets are allocated to our club.

To enter the draw, please sign up on the bulletin board of the website (with your name and British Tennis number) or let Tim Bloomfield or Chris Blizard know you wish to enter.

Once you have been allocated a pair of tickets, all the admin, including distribution of the tickets, will be handled by the LTA. Tickets are sold at face value plus a £2.50 per pair admin charge levied by the LTA. Details of what you have to do will be provided at the time.

## Equipment

The club provides tennis balls for club events and a supply of used balls will usually be found in the hut adjacent to the courts. New tubes of balls (Head ATP or pressure-less, Mantis) can be purchased from the club (contact Warwick Pistorius, Chris Blizard or Tim Bloomfield) at the very reasonable price of £4 per tube.

Warwick Pistorius is an authorised Head Tennis Equipment Agent and is therefore able to obtain very competitive prices on the latest racquets, clothing, bags and shoes. The entire new 2015 range is available by contacting him for trial/demo use.

He also can offer a racquet re-stringing service with usually with a 24 hour turnaround - £25 per racquet or £15 if you supply the string.

For any other sports equipment the club can recommend going to Jim Hills Sports at Sports Warehouse, Hillside Farm, Billingshurst, RH13 8QN tel 01403 741116. Jim is very knowledgeable and helpful and will be sure to provide you with objective and sensible advice. His prices are very competitive and he is generally willing to provide a discount of at least 10% to tennis club members - simply say that you are a member of Rudgwick Lawn Tennis Club.

# Rudgwick Tennis



## Your Committee

### Chairman

Warwick Pistorius                      01483 278459                      [WarwickPistorius@gmail.com](mailto:WarwickPistorius@gmail.com)  
07969 175415

### Secretary

Tim Bloomfield                      01403 824231                      [timbloom@waitrose.com](mailto:timbloom@waitrose.com)

### Treasurer & Membership Secretary

Chris Blizard                      01403 823371                      [blizard@madasafish.com](mailto:blizard@madasafish.com)

### Social

Jane Gillam                      01403 752088                      [jane@franchisetms.com](mailto:jane@franchisetms.com)

Honor Young                      01403 731370                      [honor@example-associates.co.uk](mailto:honor@example-associates.co.uk)

### Website

Vicky Nice                      01403 822369                      [v.nice@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:v.nice@hotmail.co.uk)

### General Committee Member

Tim Harrison                      01403 822360                      [t.harrison@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:t.harrison@ukonline.co.uk)

Guy Harrison                      07801 010410                      [guy@sopersfarm.com](mailto:guy@sopersfarm.com)

Sallie Darking                      01403 822605                      [sallie@darkin.plus.com](mailto:sallie@darkin.plus.com)

### Coaches

Warwick Pistorius                      01483 278459                      [WarwickPistorius@gmail.com](mailto:WarwickPistorius@gmail.com)  
07969 175415

Kathy Pistorius                      01483 278459                      [WarwickPistorius@gmail.com](mailto:WarwickPistorius@gmail.com)  
07912 612296

### Data Protection

Members should be aware that their contact details will be stored in the private, tennis members' area of the website. A tick-box on the subscription form enables you to opt out if you wish, so that your details will not be visible to other members. The Club undertakes not to give permission to any person to use the contact list for anything other than RSCC and tennis club business.