

JUNIOR REPORT 2014/15

First of all a big well done to Guy Mobey for reaching the boys under 14 Oxford Closed Finals and winning the mixed doubles. The first "Faringdonian" to do so. Guy has worked tirelessly on his game and with the guidance of Matt Williams all the hard work is beginning to pay off. Max Mobey, Bertie Kiff and Juliette Ainslie all performed well at the Oxford Closed and we are tremendously proud of their efforts. As you can see our junior performance team is building slowly but surely and we are lucky to have Matt's services available.

There are now an increasing number of talented girls coming through the system, which is a complete contrast to what it was 3 years ago. We have concentrated on dividing the girls from the boys at an earlier age and that decision is starting to reap rewards. A big thanks must go to Susanna who is doing great work with the girls.

I used the Delta Tennis Centre for some extra Winter sessions which was really successful. With no floodlights we have to stop after school sessions from October to March. So these mid-week events were much needed. I have also worked with the Faringdon Leisure Centre in providing tennis for 4yos to 11yos in the main hall from 10.00am to 12noon on sundays throughout the year. The aim is to to give primary schoolchildren as much opportunity to play. Now with the new mini red zone we will be able to offer 365days a year mini red tennis!

We had mini red, orange and green tournaments scheduled during the year. The number of players were fewer than last year but our fist mini red tournament on the new red zone was a great success, and bodes well for the future.

The number of juniors now playing tennis is just over sixty and rising quickly. The goal set for 2015/16 is to double that. I think it is achievable and that would mean that we would become one of the leading lights in Oxfordshire. Not bad for a little "sleepy market town" as one of the OLTA officials called us. Little? yes, sleepy? perhaps. But we will be punching above our weight! Watch out Oxford Sports!

Alan Elbourn