

Faringdon Tennis Club Chairman's Report 2015

Its been another incredibly busy year at the club, with everyone settling in to our new environment and enjoying the tennis - 4 courts, floodlights, mini courts (and dog walkers to spectate!)

2015 has seen our membership grow from 140 to over 220+. This of course bucks the trend nationally and in Oxfordshire. I put this down to the feel of the club; a welcoming membership and friendly environment, as much as our new prominent location.

Of course, our new location bringing challenges as well as opportunities for more tennis. Our courts didn't quite live up to the manufacturers promise, so there has been some disruption whilst we've re-surfaced (and soon, painted). Ball discoloration has been a hot topic.....although soon to be resolved.

A huge thanks goes out to all those who have willingly given their time over the year. The Social committee (Susanna and Juls especially) have been busy with Pimms and Prizes evenings and the Big Tennis Weekend. Also, thanks go to Andy and Anne Sawyer for their gardening and Fixtures commitments. It was with great pleasure that the club was able to secure tickets for them both to go to Wimbledon this year as a way of saying thanks you.

Last month, we reached TennisMark status; one of only a handful of clubs in Oxfordshire to gain this. This is fantastic news, as it is recognition of a well run and vibrant club.

For the first time in many years we've had a Club Championships, ably lead by Steve Pugh (any co-incidence he won the Men's singles?!) Another great social occasion, and our thanks go to him for organising it so well... long may it continue.

A fantastic year's senior tennis has lead to 4 of our 7 teams being promoted across the Summer. And with 4 Women's and 3 Men's teams now entering the Winter Season, there's opportunity for more play. I do feel the standard of play has gone up, which bodes well for more success!

Finally, the focus on the coming year will be around engaging everyone in the club – finding the right level of tennis for all - Consultation next year, so watch this space !

Mark Mobey

Chairman - Faringdon Tennis Club