

Susanna's Coaching report for 2017

In terms of coaching, I continue to offer 4 mornings of ladies doubles, in addition to private lessons and a teenage girls group.

The main aim of my coaching sessions is to introduce people to the wonderful game of tennis and then to prepare them for doubles play, whether that be playing socially with friends, attending our social sessions at the club, or feeling confident enough to enter the club tournament. I also prepare people for match tennis, so they can join either the ladies or the mixed teams and experience competitive tennis, representing Faringdon against other Oxfordshire clubs.

Learning the on court etiquette, scoring, positioning on court and knowing which balls to call out, is as important as learning the technique and form a vital component of both social and match play.

3 ladies teams and 2 mixed teams compete in the Babolat Oxfordshire summer season and 4 ladies teams in the winter. Across the squads over both seasons over 30 ladies compete. There are approx 40 who attend the coaching sessions.

Anne Sawyer has also organised a ladies mid week friendly league, which caters for those who are busy at weekends or perhaps want something a little less competitive than the leagues.

A couple of the A team and the majority of the B, C and D teams are made up of ladies from the coaching sessions and I am delighted that so many of the ladies are choosing to join the club and compete, rather than just attend coaching. It is the key to increasing our membership and one's enjoyment of the game of tennis. Financially, these ladies contribute between £2k and £3k per year in membership fees to the club. (£85 per adult for full membership and £20 for coaching only)

In addition to the adult morning sessions, I have a teenage girls group of approx 10 girls, ranging from 12 – 17 yrs. A few of these girls have competed for our ladies teams and also entered the club championships, with Mia Wright winning both the ladies and mixed doubles this year. Congratulations Mia!

I also want to congratulate Guy Mobey for winning the Men's Singles Club Championships as well as being Oxford County Champion for U18 Boys Singles.

Alan and I also run Mini Red and Mini Orange school competitions at the club for the local Junior schools Partnership, in conjunction with Rachel Kenyon and Danny Taylor, so the club has good links with the local schools.

The coaching situation at the club is looking healthy, with lots on offer and most people catered for.