

Susanna's Coaching Report for 2019

In terms of coaching, I continue to offer 4 mornings of ladies doubles, covering all levels of ability in addition to private lessons and a teenage girls group on Mondays after school, which runs from Mar-Oct.

Ladies Doubles Coaching Groups:

Tue 9.30-11.00	Experienced
Wed 9.30-11.00	Beginners/Intermediate
Thu 9.30-11.00	Experienced
Fri 10.30-12.00	Beginner/Intermediate

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. This year, it was wonderful to watch the Club Championship Finals and see Sheelagh Lugg, Yvonne Mundy, Sarah Moore and Brenda Nisbet all competing as finalists, with Sheelagh and Sarah emerging as winners!

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 forms a vital component of both social and match play. A player is not only a player, but an umpire too.

3 ladies teams and 3 mixed teams compete in the Babolat Oxfordshire summer season and 4 ladies teams in the winter. Across the squads over both seasons almost 40 ladies compete. There are approx 40 who attend the coaching sessions. Next summer (April 2020) we would like to introduce a 4th team, a Ladies D team.

Anne Sawyer also organises 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.

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 approx. £3,000 per year in membership fees to the club. (£85 per adult for full membership and £20 for coaching only). As the majority want to play for the team, most are full members.

Alan and I also run Mini Red and Mini Orange school competitions mid week during the summer term at the club for the local Junior schools Partnership, in conjunction with Rachel Kenyon (Faringdon Community College) and Danny Taylor (King Alfred's, Wantage), so the club has good links with the local schools.

Matt Williams is no longer running group sessions, as he is now teaching mid week but he will continue with a few private lessons on Saturdays.

Guy Mobey is now at university, but Max Mobey will continue to run the Saturday morning sessions, with Mark Mobey on site.

Alan is running a Sunday morning Parent and Child pay and play session.

The club have recruited Head Coaches Dave Tuck and Tom Francis, who are currently running junior sessions Wed and Fri evenings in addition to a Men's session on Wednesday afternoon. They will be expanding this programme over the coming year to include more sessions on more days.

The coaching situation at the club is looking healthy, with lots on offer and all ages and abilities catered for and it is set to expand.