

Riccall Tennis Club 'Winter' Newsletter



Welcome to the Winter edition of our newsletter. The weather's continued to be a challenge however members have dug in and ensured club night and coaching has continued to be success and players are clearly seeing the benefit of continued practice and expert coaching! Here's all the latest news before the lighter nights start to appear!

Riccall Tennis Club committee members:

Chairman/Membership secretary/Safe-guarding officer: Steven Capewell

Treasurer: Andrew Dunning

Secretary: Marilyn Angles

Committee member: Steve Packer

Committee member: Lucy Dennis

Coaching: Jack Wood

All can be contacted by email: info@riccalltennisclub.com or WhatsApp or phone at appropriate times of the day.

Notification of our club AGM:

Our AGM is set for Wednesday 4th March at 7:30pm at the Regen Centre – we hope to see lots of you there.

Club Spring Clean Day:

As in previous years, members will be joining forces on **Friday 3rd April** to give the clubhouse, courts and surrounding area a spring clean in preparation for a great summer of tennis. If you can spare a few hours that would be greatly appreciated – we will be creating a list of jobs in advance and displaying it in the clubhouse.

Riccall Tennis Club Championships:

Following the success of last years' events will be holding a series of tournaments over the weekend of 18th/19th April. We will begin with a mixed doubles tournament over the weekend and hope to hold a men's doubles and ladies doubles tournament during the mid-summer league break.

Padel developments:

We are now hopefully at the final stages of planning permission which has included a never-ending list of conditions that we have had to meet. The process has now taken almost a year but thankfully the discharge of conditions (Noise Impact Assessment, Noise Management Plan and Construction Environmental Plan) have been submitted which hopefully answers all the questions the planning department had. We will find out whether these conditions are appropriate and acceptable by 13th March (we are hopeful that there will be no further issues). We really hope this is successful as the money raised from this will go a long way to securing the future of the club and gives us a chance to begin the plans of rebuilding all 3 courts.

Court/club developments:

We've spent a long time working on court one, trying to flatten the lumps that have appeared and filling any holes and cracks. We needed paint to seal that work and unfortunately it took longer than expected to source this and so some of the filler has become loose – we now cannot use the paint until March at the earliest so the condition of court one will be impacted until we can do this. Apologies for this but we will aim to resolve this as soon as we can.



Junior coaching/Adult coaching:
Jack Wood (LTA Accredited Professional Tennis Coach).



Riccall TENNIS CLUB **RTC**
FEBRUARY HALF-TERM & EASTER HOLIDAYS
TENNIS CAMPS

Dates:
17th February
31st March
7th April

All sessions are 3hrs: 9am-12pm or 12:30pm-3:30pm
Full day is two sessions (Pack a lunch for the break!)

Session Prices:
£15.50 for 1 session
£45 for 3 sessions
£80 for 6 sessions
£120 for 10 sessions

Any questions or bookings contact Jack on
07786 656456

RICCALL TENNIS CLUB **RTC**

Tennis Sessions
Every Tuesday

4-5pm 4-8yr olds
5-6pm 9-12yr olds
6-7pm 13-17yr olds

£5.50 per session

7-8pm Adults team players / intermediate
8-9pm Adults beginner / non team players

£6 per session

First session FREE!

Message Head Coach Jack on
07786 656456

Club nights/events and socials to get involved in:

A fantastic Christmas social was held on Friday 19th December! The clubhouse looked amazing with all the decorations - Steve Packer did a great job with that! Lots of juniors and adult members played together; there were a few competitive doubles matches played and some fun games for the kids all topped off with hot dogs and Christmas music! Hopefully, it helped everyone get into the Christmas spirit! Our next 'Start of Season' social is planned for Friday 24th April.

Further information on club nights – Everyone is welcome at club night, don't worry about your ability level, you'll be welcomed on arrival and invited into a doubles or singles match which will suit your level. We play a match consisting of 4 games and then rotate partners and opponents and try to give everyone a chance to play with each other. People arrive at a variety of times, some come as early as 6pm whilst others arrive between 7:30- 8pm so choose a time to suit your availability. Those that have kept playing over Autumn are really starting to see the benefit of continuing over the off-season in preparation for the spring. After a fresh start with lots of our teams last year we've started to build good squads so keeping up that practice over the winter will pay dividends next year. The ladies have always continued winter training on Monday mornings and achieved great things last year so it really does make a difference if you can make it.

Valentines bonus ball fundraiser:

Thanks to Steve Packer for organising the Valentine bonus ball fundraiser; the draw took place on Saturday 14th February with our committee member, Marilyn, pocketing the top prize of £75 - congratulations!

Table Tennis:

We have recently purchased some table tennis equipment for all to enjoy. Please familiarise yourself with how to set it up together with a few safety reminders using the video sent to all members via Whatsapp. There are competitions and social play sessions planned for the near future.



Safe-guarding:

The safety and wellbeing of all who attend our club is our priority and our Welfare Officer is on hand should you have any safeguarding concerns or anything that is worrying you that you wish to discuss. Steven Capewell is our Welfare and Safe-guarding Officer and you can contact him via phone (07557996826) or email (steven.capewell@sky.com). Steve Packer is our Deputy Welfare and Safe-guarding Officer and you can contact him via phone (07738470021) or email (stephenpacker7@aol.com).

Further information about safeguarding at our venue and related policies can be found on our website [Policies – Riccall Tennis Club](#). We also have a safeguarding noticeboard inside the clubhouse which has details of all our policies and procedures including contact details of our Welfare and Safe-guarding Officers.

Promoting a positive safeguarding culture includes promoting positive behaviours, and as a future LTA Registered Venue, all our members and venue users are required to follow the [LTA Code of Conduct](#). Please familiarise yourself with this and raise any concerns about behaviours with the Welfare and Safe-guarding Officers or a committee member.

You may have noticed we've had a complete over-haul of all of our safe-guarding policies - we are now completely LTA compliant – the recent Safeguarding update email will have explained all of the changes and updates. There are some sections from various policies highlighted in the update of which parents of junior members should pay particular attention to.

Reminder - Booking courts and floodlight use:

As our club continues to grow, we now have the issue of court availability (which is a good problem have!) Over the last few years, generally, there has been courts available at any time. However as coaching, interest in teams, singles play and social tennis is growing then we need to emphasise the importance of our court booking system. We have had a considerable increase in pay and play bookings over the summer so please ensure courts are booked so that we don't have a clash of court use. The booking system can be found on our website and should be used at all times for all sessions.

Regarding floodlights, as we all know the cost of electricity has rocketed for us all including the tennis club! That said, our policy is still to offer the use of the floodlights for a minimal voluntary donation of £1 per person per hour which is very good value compared to other clubs. As a result, we have put signs up reminding everyone of that together with the club's bank details to make payments. Can you also ensure only one court is lit if only one court is being used as well. Hopefully we can continue to offer this and won't need to go to an automated system like some other clubs do.

We hope to see you down at the courts for club nights, social events and coaching sessions in the weeks to come.

Kind regards,

Steven Capewell
(Chairman, Membership secretary and Safe Guarding Officer)