



# **BEARSDEN LAWN TENNIS CLUB**

Founded 1887

[www.bearsdenltc.org.uk](http://www.bearsdenltc.org.uk)

As spring approaches, it is time to look forward to the new tennis season at Bearsden Lawn Tennis Club. Our aim at the Club is to offer something for everyone, and to welcome all of those who are interested in playing tennis. The Club's success depends on members coming down and taking part at all levels - social or match play, senior or junior. We hope that there is something in our programme for both new and existing players.

As Secretary, I am the first point of contact for the Club; so, if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will endeavour to help, or find out who can.

With our lovely clubhouse, it is very exciting to see the Club expanding its facilities and moving into a new era. There is still a bit of work to be done on the finishing touches, so you'll see further improvements over the coming year. With work planned on club landscaping and on improving our four courts, it's a great time to be a member.

Please note the following dates for your diary:

## **American Tournaments (Social Tennis): Opening Day Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April**

These are held each Saturday afternoon from 2pm. For those not familiar with this format, all players mix in with each other and play doubles with a different partner each time they go on court. Everyone is very welcome, the atmosphere is friendly, and it is an ideal way to get to know other members. The standard is very mixed; so don't be shy about coming along. Afternoon tea is served during April, May and June.

**Open Days and Family Days:** On **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April**, the Club will be holding a Great British Tennis Weekend (Family Day) event with games and a BBQ. We want to welcome new members and visitors to find out more about Bearsden Tennis Club. Our coach, Gordon Wilson, will organize activities throughout the morning for all ages and abilities, and in the afternoon non-members are welcome to join in informal matches. See the *Club Events* page of the website for further events.

**Matches:** With 5 Mens and 5 Ladies Teams, 8 Junior teams, and 6 Seniors (Veterans) teams (plus other Cup and Knockout competition teams), the Club aims to provide competitive play for a wide range of playing abilities. Matches start in the middle of April, and all interested in playing for a team should come down and take part in the practices and Team Drills Nights. The names of the match secretaries are on the Teams page of the website. **Ladies practice is on Tuesday evenings from 7pm.** **Gents practice is on Thursday evenings from 7pm.** There is still plenty of time to join in, and the team captains are always looking for new players. **Junior match practice is on Friday evenings** and details are on the clubhouse noticeboard.

**Club Championships:** Ties are held throughout the season culminating in Finals Day on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September**. The entry sheets will be up in the clubhouse soon and the draw will be made in mid May. There will be strict deadlines for playing ties, and the tournament referee will enforce these firmly but fairly!

**Tournaments:** There are Ratings, Invitation and regular American tournaments. These and any other special events will be advertised on the Club website (see the *Club Events* page) and on the noticeboard - so come down regularly to make sure you are not missing out.

**Doe Sport Bearsden Summer Rating Tournament:** For the last 28 years, the Club has hosted a week-long LTA Grade 4 Ranking event (**Sat 28<sup>th</sup> July to Sun 5<sup>th</sup> August** this year). This is a singles tournament for players of all

levels of ability and all age groups (this includes Mini, Junior and Senior). Josie Beeley is the organiser of this fantastic event – one which attracts a large number of players (both from within the Club and further afield).

**Invitation Tournament:** Our annual invitation tournament (the 42<sup>nd</sup>!) will be held this year on **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**, with Josie Beeley organizing this great day too. More details will be on the website nearer the time.

**Social Tennis:** This is always on Saturday afternoons from 2pm, and Wednesday evenings from 7.30pm.

**Day Tennis:** Members come down on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9.30am. All are welcome and this is a great way to get back into playing tennis. The first session will take place in **mid-April**. Come along regardless of the weather, as you can meet other members, play some tennis, and have a coffee to recover!

**Coaching:** For Adult and Junior coaching, contact our Head Coach Gordon Wilson (07841-392699), or Junior Convenor John Beeley (942-7872). Adult group coaching takes place on Wednesday evenings 6.30pm - 7.30pm at various points throughout the year. Adult Tennis Coffee Mornings take place on Monday and Thursday mornings 9.30am - 11.30am. Please contact Gordon Wilson for more information.

**Floodlights:** Floodlights are free for members and tokens can be found in the kitchen drawer. This means the courts are available for play until 10pm each evening, all year round.

**Clubhouse Keys:** These are available from Susan Burns (07910-876076) on payment of a £15 deposit.

**Membership Secretary:** Members should send their subscriptions to: Keith Wright, 72 Douglas Park Crescent, Bearsden, Glasgow G61 3DN (942-6360).

**British Tennis Membership:** We would like to encourage as many members as possible to sign up to the British Tennis Membership scheme. Please refer to [www.lta.org.uk](http://www.lta.org.uk) for more information about the benefits of joining. Please note: all members participating in teams will require BTM numbers. It's free to sign up for this, and only takes a few minutes online. Signing up also increases our Wimbledon ticket allocation from the LTA.

**BLTC Website:** The [www.bearsdenlta.org.uk](http://www.bearsdenlta.org.uk) website is constantly being updated and there is a lot of useful information on it. Please refer to it throughout the year, as we are trying to reduce the amount of paper we send out to members. As happened last year, we are asking members to download this year's **membership application form** from the website. There will be spare forms placed on the noticeboards in the clubhouse if this facility is unavailable to you.

**Balls:** Used match balls (used for only one match) are available at prices from £1 per tin of three. Contact our Ball Convenor Rob Murdoch on 07403-255361.

**200 Club:** The Club operates a 200 Club to raise money for Club funds. Entry is £15 per year. Draws are made monthly for small prizes, and once a year for a large prize. Details are available from Jayne Gilkes and Kate Haig. Please join and support this fundraising effort - the more members that join, the bigger the gain for the Club, and the larger the prizes. A form to renew your entry (or join for the first time) is available on the website. Note: no receipts for payment of membership will be issued unless specifically requested.

**Wimbledon Tickets:** The Club receives an allocation of tickets from the LTA each year for the Wimbledon Championships, and a ballot is held to give members the chance to purchase tickets. Further information about the ballot is made available to Club members in January, but you must have a BTM number and have opted-in on the LTA website to the Wimbledon Ballot to be eligible.

I hope you enjoy your tennis and make the most of season 2018!

Andy Gordon, Secretary, 07968-672104, [secretary@bearsdenlta.org.uk](mailto:secretary@bearsdenlta.org.uk)