

CIRENCESTER TENNIS CLUB TOURNAMENTS' REPORT 2016

We will have run 8 tournaments over the course of 2016 (once the last Mixed Doubles Handicap at the Delta has taken place on 19 Nov). 7 'closed' and one 'open', that being Adrian's Over 45s tournament in August.

There is a write-up of each tournament with the names of the winners and runners-up on the website so I won't rehash these but would just like to make a few observations.

All the tournaments attracted a great number of players with very little 'chasing' to make up numbers required, which is heartening. Thanks to the success of the Singles' Ladder, both Singles Tournaments were well subscribed to with more ladies than ever before this year.

The first Indoor tournament was held at Oxstalls this year. Players enjoyed the change of venue and provision of food (not quite enough) but it was overheated. I seeded the two groups for the first time along team lines with the idea of having winners from CDEF teams rather than the winners nearly always belonging to the A teams. This November's tournament will see a random placing in the two groups and I'll invite feedback from this afterwards. We may opt for one formula or use the opportunity to play it both ways given that there are 2 indoor tournaments.

The Mira tournament was also slightly different this year in that due to a lack of 4 men to match the enthusiastic ladies we invited juniors who played to an adult standard. This could have been a mistake as one of them, Oliver Smalley, went on to be runner-up and I had to give him a bottle of wine! But it was really lovely to have them there - Oscar Snowball and Johnathan Gell playing with their Mums and Finlay Burke playing with both parents. We thought Mira would have loved it. Mira didn't leave any precise instructions as to how to run the tournament in his name, so Anna and I are going to look at what might happen next year with the possibility of making it a more family tournament.

The Roll-up tournament continues to be a great success. I didn't organise it - just gave them the balls and prizes and they got on with it.

The highlight for me was the Mixed Doubles tournament in September as it was the most closely and fiercely fought with any one of about 6 couples who could have won it and a great day's tennis for everyone.

Lots of thanks go to Graham Wellfair, Julie Taylor, Kate Henwood, Judith Cutler and Ro Lyon for all their help.

Zena Marchington, November 016