

## Men's Captain's Report 2017

Overall a very good year, with no relegations and two promotions by the Men's E & the Men's F team.

More importantly the tennis was played in a good spirit, and hopefully with good fun had by all, and I would like to thank all the 57 Men who played in the summer.

### **Men's A – captained by Shane**

Best ever finish – 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Premier League and our highest ever points total, only 3 points behind the league winners.

We had four players in the top 12 individual places in the league, with Adam top, Ben second and Zach 9th.

We also had the great feeling of beating Beckford (the eventual league winners) at home 4-0. Unfortunately for us Chris Morrow who plays tennis for Harvard University was back for the rematch and inflicted Adam & Ben's only defeat of the season.

But still a fantastic achievement 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the whole of Gloucestershire, when a few years ago we didn't have an A Team in the Premier League.

### **Men's B – captained by Joe**

Paul Harris had a well-earned rest from captain's duties and Joe took over and did a great job.

A good season finishing 4th behind strong Chalford, East Glos and Oxstalls sides.

Jono topped the team's averages, with Paul Harris, Paul Denyer and Joe himself not far behind

A good mix of youth and experience with Oscar, Dan and Ollie making successful appearances to bring the average age down.

### **Men's C - captained by Paul W**

A solid mid-table finish in Division 2.

With Paul Bird topping the number of sets won, and Oscar and Dan only dropping 5 sets each in the matches they played, but having played less matches due to exams, which is a poor excuse for not playing tennis.

There is no reason why this team cannot make it to Division 1.

### **Men's D – captained by Jeremy**

In an incredibly tight division 3B, the D team were only 4 points from 3<sup>rd</sup> place and two points from being relegated. . A great 2-2 draw away to the league winners ensured survival, Paul Ash and Ian Lunn picking up a couple of vital wins in that match.

Special mention to Jeremy who topped the team stats and Paul Ash who played less matches but only dropped 4 sets overall.

One of the highlights of the year being Ian Lunn being called for taking a volley the wrong side of the net. The only surprise being that it hasn't happened before.

The D team spends a lot of time in pubs and curry houses, talking tactics and I think we all secretly want to be in this team

### **Men's E – captained by Christophe**

An excellent performance finishing second in Division 4A.

Most of the players won more matches than they lost, with Barry and Nick topping the stats for the team, Ian, Andrew and Jonathan not far behind.

Adrian and Jonathan had some great wins against opposition young enough to be their grand-children. John Lee also played and did well in his matches.

### **Men's F – captained by Pete**

The F team had a lot of fun and a great season winning Division 5B by one point!

This team never lies down. Winning six points from championship tie-breaks and not losing any match that went to a deciding set!

The league went down to the wire, with Chalford needing to win the final game 4-0 to win the league against lowly Bredon, but only managing a 3-1 win.

This team finished 2<sup>nd</sup> from bottom in Div 5 last summer going on to win Division 5 this year.

Great performances by all the F team in particular Matt, John O and Spencer. And Toby winning 13 out of 14 but the only player in the Mens side to win all their matches was Pete winning 14 out of 14.

### **Finally**

Oscar Snowball was awarded most improved player for his performances in both the C & B teams and in the Aegon and Pete won a special award for winning all his matches.

Final thank you to Rachel, and to Di, for organising me when I've needed to be organised.

And to more good fun and good tennis this winter.

**Shane**