

Tournaments' Report 2018

Club Tournaments

What a lovely year's tournaments! Good fun, friendly competitive tennis and a bit of socialising thrown in.

The Doubles, Mira and Mixed Doubles all went like a dream. Before publicising the dates, I contacted other clubs in the area whose events could have clashed with ours and they reciprocated and we all organised our tournaments so that there would be no potential conflicts. Sadly I didn't include Chippenham, who held a Women's Doubles event on the same day as our Mixed Doubles and robbed us of several players.

The Women's Singles were a bit disappointing as we had only two entrants. The committee decided to run the event anyway and so we went straight to the final. I think we missed the enthusiasm of Paul Wheeler and his Singles Ladder – it just shows how much difference individuals can make to a club.

One change we made this year was the introduction of the £5 entry fee. Not a quibble about this (well, not to my face!) and it made sure that we covered the cost of running the tournaments with balls, prizes and refreshments.

The Delta tournaments, in expense terms, run themselves as I incur the expenses and then divide that by the numbers playing to determine the fee on the night. For the past two or three tournaments we haven't used the 4th court and that drove the price up to £15, so we've decided to cancel this autumn's tournament and leave it for a while – or hope that someone might like to take it on as a social event and drum up some support for it.

The Roll-up Tournament took place this year and I only had to do the paperwork, so it was brilliantly organised by Ray and Judith.

I am signing off for a while but it has been great fun and thanks to all who helped over the past few years.

Zena

Open Mixed tournament

The 6th Open Over 45s Mixed Doubles Tournament took place on Sunday 19th August. Only 16 pairs entered this year (down from 27 in 2017). Despite

that, a good day of tennis ensued, with all matches being played on the front 4 courts. As usual there were round robins in the morning, starting at 09:30, and the fact that there were four pairs to each court meant that the matches finished at a similar time, between 12:30 and 13:00, when lunch was taken. The reduced, even number allowed for a relatively straightforward transition into the afternoon Main and Plate round robins. There followed the semi-finals of each strand, with the finals of both Main and Plate ending at about 18:30.

Jo Adams and Shane Horsell beat Angie Baldock and Andy Dickinson 6-3 in the main final and Di Horsell and Steve Lambie beat Sara Lewis and Neil Martin 6-4 in the plate final.

It was good to note that nearly 40% of the players came from other clubs, making the event a genuinely open one.

Thanks to all of the players who stayed on to see two engrossing finals. Finally, I would also like to thank Judith, Ben and Kate Potter (and Isabelle) for their help in making it a relatively smooth day.

Adrian