

Phoenix Tennis Report 2022

Phoenix Programme

We have continued to make progress in growing the mini red and orange elements of our programme, especially during the summer months. We are finding the 4-7 age bracket is starting to drop off in the Winter however I believe this to be understandable as an outdoor club. We are looking into ways to bring more competitive tennis for our juniors as we are seeing a loss of interest in competing. The club tends to be quieter during Saturday and Sunday afternoon (when there's no Stroud League), so myself and Liz are discussing solutions. Our beginner coaching courses on a Tuesday and Thursday evening continues to bring new members to the club with most now attending Club sessions and teams.

Holiday Camps

As usual holiday camps continue to be a fun part of our year, bringing plenty of new faces to our club. The timings continue to be working really well as we have attracted stronger juniors in our afternoon session whilst keeping our regular numbers.

Drills

Drills have continued to be a highlight for the coaches week, during the off seasons numbers have been healthy and during matches slightly lower. There doesn't appear to be an issue anymore where drills are full every week which means members can always attend. It also leads to more varied sessions as it's not the same number each week.

Online Booking

There are still the odd questions about online bookings as well as plenty of technical issues. I still like the system and hope these issues are fixed quickly. The main issues have been since the merge of Clubspark and LTA logins. The potential of the website still out way the drawbacks.

Coaching Team

Ash has settled in brilliantly into the family atmosphere of our club and continues to impress both in and off court. Zach is still a club stalwart practically living at the club at this point.

Meera, Alexandra, Bernard, Finlay, James, Joel, Izzy and Rob continue to be part of the amazing team. Rob has completed his level 1 as have Kieran and Finlay.

A special mention has to go to Oscar Snowball as he was an integral part of our Summer Camps, working tirelessly and helping me when I had to take some time off court.

Penny Allberry Award

This years award still needs to be decided. It was noted last year that James Lee has won the award twice so this is being looked into as well.

Final Thoughts

Some of the main things we are looking into is the demand for individual lessons during weekends and evenings which cannot be fit in currently due to the programme and coaches prior commitments.

Another is the amount of high levelled juniors we have from 9-13 years and the lack of competing opportunities we have at our club. We have two potential solutions lined up so hopefully this will be remedied.

And finally court availability is becoming trickier especially due to the need to sweep the courts now. On a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday demand for courts is high, and the current size of the programme on these days means it's becoming increasingly trickier to fit everyone on court.