

Captains' AGM Report 2023

Summer 2023 Gloucestershire League

Eleven teams were entered into the Summer Gloucester League. 5 Ladies and 6 Men's teams. A total of thirty-six ladies played and fifty men. Overall, 118 matches were completed with the men winning almost 50% and the ladies slightly less.

Ladies Summer 2023 Gloucestershire League

Great tennis across all levels with many players relishing the opportunities of playing in higher divisions and new members enjoying competitive tennis.

The A team finished bottom of the Premier after an unexpected promotion from Div 1 and will be back in Div 2 next season. Julie says, we welcomed Elizabeth, new to our club, into the team, she brought much needed younger legs and attacking play. We all fought hard in every match with close games and tiebreaks and were disappointed but not surprised to finish bottom of the league. The results did not reflect the high standard of play by all team players, the team spirit was excellent, and we had fun despite the superior opposition."

The B team finished top of Div 2B and will be guaranteed promotion to Div 1 next year. The youngest and newest members Sephy and Decima deserve a special mention winning sixteen out of eighteen sets and thirteen out of fourteen sets, respectively. Sephy finished top of all the player stats in Div2B and Decima 3rd. Well done to all the team for securing a promotion for next year. Di captain said "The B team had a very enjoyable season with some great tennis. It was a delight to have Kirstin, Decima and Sephy join us this year, they brought great energy and youth to the team! It's even better when the team dynamic translates into success, and we were very happy to finish top of our division and so back up to Division 1 we go!"

The C team finished in the middle of Div 3A with some close matches at the end of the season and missing out on the top two places, will be in Div 3 again next year.

Jen our C team captain said "Our women's C team have had a very enjoyable relaxed summer of team tennis. Fabulous team spirit between Jane, Ann, Liz, Lucy, Anisa, Zena, and Heather. Often enjoying a nice glass of rose together after the match. Unfortunately, I only played a couple of matches due to injury. We did have the most rearranged matches due to the weather, and Liz reports the most tie breaks she has ever played in a season! We will remain in the same division, but we are positive that we can improve on performance next year."

The D team were unlucky to finish in the bottom two of Div 3B and will be in Div 4 next year.

Anne-Maree our D team captain said "The season for the D team was one of ups & downs. The team had two new lady players to team tennis - both did really well in their first season - Monica & Nicky. The team was doing well early on & were competitive & holding their position in mid table until the last few matches where we were hampered by illness, injuries, work commitments & holidays leaving us exceptionally low on players or reserve's & hence unfortunately fell into the relegation zone."

The E team finished fourth in Div 5 improving on last year's position and will remain in Div 5 next year.

Kerry our E team's non-playing captain said "This year we welcomed several new league players to the E team SJ, Annie, Rachel, and Lottie, who very capably played alongside some of our players

from last year Jenny, Cathey, Andree, Janet, and Jade. The fact that many of the team started their tennis journey at Friday morning drills, is a testament to our coaches' teaching ability and infectious enthusiasm for the game! Despite only having one or no seasons under their belts, and some availability difficulty in the last two matches, the E team played some brilliant tennis and our move up the division reflects that.

What struck Kerry and any of us watching play, was what a great sporting spirit they have, not just with each other, but also with their opponents and with the other teams on court. Fantastic ambassadors for the club and all round a lovely bunch of people!" Well done, Ladies!!

Next year we will endeavour to load more matches at the beginning of the season to avoid availability issues running into holiday times.

Men's Summer 2023 Gloucester League

Shane would like to personally thank the captains of each team who did such a good job during the Summer and all the players who backed them up. This year there was also some change to the scheduling when we lost Thursday as a match night which freed up more courts for club play. Traditionally we have tried to keep all matches for the same team on the same night e.g., Men's A matches on a Friday etc. and is certainly worth another review and discussion before scheduling matches' next season.

Men's A

Ben said "Men's A team was competing in the Premier Division which was as strong as ever. The team competed well and were committed but unfortunately were not quite good enough to stay up. Ash from the coaching team tried very hard and Finlay made a difference when he was available. We missed Zach not playing. It was much easier to get a team out once we reverted to home matches on a Friday." Ben was top performer.

Men's B

The Men's B bounced back into Division 1 winning the league. Andy, James, and Mike were top performers and we wrapped up the league with two convincing wins against our nearest challenger Bredon.

Men's C

This team also bounced back up to Division 2 winning their league at a canter. Thanks to Jeremy as captain and to Chris Jones and Paul Jenkins both being unbeaten during the season.

Men's D

Thanks to Jon and Spencer for running the team, in a closely fought Division 3 they finished fifth but only five points off promotion. Top performers were Jon and Jamie.

Men's E

Thank you to Roger and Christophe for captaining the team. Christophe finishing the season as top performer, the team finished second from bottom in Division 4.

Men's F

Captained by Monty with lots of new players in the team. The team finished second from bottom in Division 5, but only two points off fourth place. Nigel, Daniel, and Monty being top performers.

Monty says, "The F Team had a season of 'narrow margins'. By the narrowest margins we won a few games, lost a few games, and narrowly missed being last in the league thanks to a penalty incursion by Cerney Lakes. Most of the team had not played with each other before and seldom played with the same player throughout the season. We had a few early injuries and later health scares, but we counted them all out and counted them all in."

Winter Midweek League 2022/23:

Mixed A Team were relegated from a very tough Premier league Division, top performers Ange and Shane.

Mixed B Team bounced back to win Division 2 having been relegated the year before, Elizabeth being the top performer.

Mixed C Team finished third in Div 3 narrowly missing promotion by only two points Anne-Maree and Jonathan being top performers.

This Winter season 2023 our A and B team will be playing in Div 1 and the C team Div 3.

Stroud Winter League 2022/23

The Stroud Winter Sunday League (SWL) was again popular with players who enjoy the format of both ladies, men's and mixed doubles and playing in the daylight at the weekend.

All teams had excellent results: The A team retained their no 1 spot in Division 1, coming top for an amazing seven of the past 8 years. The B team were joint third place in Div 1, C team and D team finishing in second place in Div 2 and 3.

SWL A team captain Paul Harris said "Another great season for the Sunday A team saw us retain our title. Good effort from everyone especially Katie and James who played seven games each. Well done all, and thanks also to the subs who also helped when needed."

SWL B Team captain Ro said "We were pleased to very much hold our own in the division last season, as well as having a fun time, which we always do. Thank you to everyone in the squad for their support and good play."

SWL C team captain Jane Beaumont said, "It was an enjoyable season of winter tennis starting and ending the season with 8 - 0 wins and with a good run of results in the tail end of the season we finished a credible second."

SWL D team captain Ian Sagon said, "We all enjoyed playing the matches over the Winter season and playing together and were very happy finishing in 2nd place".

Thank You's

Thank you for everyone for putting your names forward and playing in all the teams. It is great to see such enthusiasm for competitive tennis on our courts throughout the year and entertaining for us all to watch.

Our thanks again to all the captains who organised and led their teams, rearranged matches, and persevered with availability. We have again this year recognised their efforts with a small gift of a bottle of wine or voucher.

Special thanks to Anne-Maree who has enthusiastically captained over the last few years and will be taking a break from captaining.

Lastly a big thank you to Shane from Julie, the committee and all our team players. Your experience and leadership as Men's Captain over the past six years have been very much appreciated by so many of us. We know you will be on hand to pass on the reigns.

Welcome for 2023/4!

We will be welcoming on board to the committee a new Men's Captain and are delighted to also be welcoming to the committee, a new role of Fixtures Secretary. It is a great news as we can now concentrate all our efforts on organising players and teams knowing that organising all the fixtures, some 216 this last year, is no longer in our remit too.

Julie Taylor and Shane Horsell
Cirencester Ladies Captain and Cirencester Men's Captain