

## **Phoenix Tennis Report 2023**

### **Phoenix Programme**

We have continued to make progress growing the mini red and orange elements of our programme again this year. This has largely been down to Ash and Oscar's really hard work and energy all year. Liz has been brilliant giving more competitive opportunities to our juniors through LTA tournaments with Jess (a tournament referee). It has been great to see our club filled with juniors on Saturday and Sunday afternoons when the club is typically quieter.

For the next year it would be nice to give some match play opportunities to our juniors who aren't confident for these events but would still like exposure to matches.

More juniors have attended club sessions and played for our adult teams this year - Jonty, Decima, Sephy and Lara are all doing well!

So many juniors doing well at county and LTA events is testament to Zach's hard work with some of our performance players. On the week-long LTA event in the summer (which we view as a good success) many Ciren juniors represented the club really well.

Our adult coaching courses on Tuesday and Thursday evenings continue to bring new members to the club, with most now attending Club sessions and teams again this year.

We also have three juniors now on the programme who may not have been able to afford tennis coaching had it not been for the Stratton Superstars money.

### **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 well as we have attracted stronger juniors in our afternoon sessions whilst keeping our regular numbers. Numbers have continued to stay steady, despite so much competition from multi sports and more sports clubs popping up each year. Some weeks have been quieter, but we're still really happy with the standard and quality of ours.

### **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 with drills being 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.

Friday morning needs 3-4 coaches each week and most of these players have filtered into the teams!

### **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. Thank you to Jeremy for helping with some queries when I haven't been able to. The main issues have arisen since the merge of Clubspark and LTA logins. We wish ClubSpark had stayed independent!!

### **Coaching Team**

Zach continues the ever constant with myself. He has churned out so many top juniors this year and has really improved at running adult sessions that he now has his own adult classes.

Ash was an integral part of the past year. We wish he could have stayed but the opportunity of a better social life in Oxford was something we couldn't hold him back from.

We have some temporary solutions since he's been gone with Oscar and Finlay and we're currently interviewing long-term coaches.

Since going full-time this summer Oscar has been inspiring so many juniors with his brilliant energy.

### **Penny Allberry Award**

This year's award still needs to be decided.

### **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, court availability and coaches' prior commitments.

The other is a long-term coach to help Jono and Zach in case of injuries and simply reduce their workload.