

More people loving
playing tennis every week!



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HERTS *TENNIS*

Herts LTA 200 Club

200 Club winners HERTS LTA 2020-2021

OCTOBER

£40	232	Mr I Duncan
£30	274	Mrs B Hayward
£20	5	Mrs C Ayling
£10	153	Mrs C Herbert
£10	29	Mr A Sheridan

NOVEMBER

£40	203	Codicote TC
£30	293	Mr M Knee
£20	196	Mrs D Walker
£10	131	Mr R Swithinbank
£10	31	Mr R Sneesby

DECEMBER

£40	104	Miss A Toogood
£30	100	Mrs C Morris
£20	211	Mr M Corrie
£10	163	Mrs E Mann
£10	102	Mrs E Taylor

JANUARY

£40	6	Mr B Havill
£30	39	Mr C Grigg
£20	99	Elstree TC
£10	254	Mr M Morgan
£10	274	Mrs B Hayward

FEBRUARY

£100	16	Mr J Banham
£40	179	Mr C Borthwick
£30	299	Mr G Westwell
£20	18	Greenwood Park TC
£10	291	Mr M Knee
£10	57	Mrs H Mailer

MARCH

£40	270	Mr A Sheridan
£30	72	Mr M Knee
£20	20	Codicote TC
£10	36	Mr I Duncan
£10	117	Mrs D Gaffney

APRIL

£40	57	Mrs H Mailer
£30	53	Mr G Westwell
£20	222	Mrs A Allard
£10	217	Miss A Toogood
£10	140	Mr C Hollis

MAY

£40	206	Mr M Bowler
£30	31	Mr R Sneesby
£20	27	Mr J Cox
£10	275	Mrs B Hayward
£10	113	Mr G Lamb

JUNE

£40	85	Mr M Knee
£30	106	Mr J Hicklin
£20	78	Mrs D Gaffney
£10	40	Codicote TC
£10	126	Mr A Sheridan

JULY

£40	177	Mrs J Thomas
£30	103	Mrs E Taylor
£20	109	Mrs M Cartmell
£10	179	Mr C Borthwick
£10	260	Mr C Saunders

AUGUST

£100	42	Mr G Westwell
£40	201	Mrs S Vallance
£30	292	Mr M Knee
£20	95	Greenwood Park TC
£10	269	Mr A Sheridan
£10	35	Codicote TC

SEPTEMBER

£40	153	Mrs C Herbert
£30	294	Mr M Knee
£20	1	Mr M Masterton
£10	208	Codicote TC
£10	269	Mr A Sheridan

Hertfordshire Lawn Tennis Association '200' club Direct Debit mandate

To _____ Bank

Postal Address _____

Please pay:	Bank	Branch Title	Sort Code
	HSBC	Harpden	40-23-11
For the credit of:	Account Name		Account Number
	Hertfordshire Lawn Tennis Association '200 Club'		31233556
the sum of:	Amount in figures	Amount in words	
	£		
commencing:	Date of first payment	and thereafter every	Frequency

And debit my/our account accordingly

**PLEASE CANCEL ALL PREVIOUS STANDING ORDER MANDATES IN FAVOUR OF THE
HERTFORDSHIRE LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION '200 CLUB' AND '500 CLUB'**

Account to be Debited (Name) _____

Account Number _____

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone Number _____

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THE PARTNERS OF HERTS LTA AND ASSOCIATED EVENTS

Jonathan Lewis	Graham Howe
ICAP Plc	Debbie Simmons
Pentland Group	Harry Wilson
CJS Consultants	David Farley
Intl FC Stone	Alex Butterworth
Barry Fulton	

And to the variety of other companies and organisations who generously support tennis in Hertfordshire in different ways.

HERTS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Trevor Adamson	President
Bridie Amos	LTA Councillor, Development
Janet Corrie	Performance
Martin Corrie	Treasurer, past LTA President
Carole Draper	Community & Office Manager, Disability and Inclusion
Helen Elliott	Honorary Secretary
Lee Evans	Tournaments and Competitions
Tessa Terry	County Safeguarding Officer
Matt Willcocks	Participation

Welcome to the annual Herts Newsletter

The Annual Report of Hertfordshire Tennis for 2021 is a slightly better read than you will have enjoyed last year.

Whilst Covid has not gone away we have seen a partial return to something like normality.

We started the year in lockdown/restrictions of course so very little for the early part of 2021 to report. Zoom became an even bigger buzz word and we did continue with the Coaches Networking Forums on Zoom holding several meetings as well as continuing our management meetings on a monthly basis.

The Herts Inspires My Tennis Futures programme launched and there were several meetings/presentations that were also held on Zoom for the participants. This new programme is for Hertfordshire qualifying tennis players in school year 10 and above who are actively involved in tennis and have a keen interest in exploring and potentially pursuing tennis as a career or via university pathway, developing their game and expanding their tennis knowledge and experience. More information is available on the website <https://hertstennis.co.uk/coaching/herts-inspires-my-tennis-future/>

By April we were allowed to start some junior county cup events and our 12U boys and girls both won their groups, having to travel each day to the venue as overnight hotel stays were still not allowed. In May the 14U and 10U teams competed with both teams again winning their groups. Our 9U teams having won their qualifying events in May travelled for the county cup finals in June. The newly introduced age group of 11U saw their first county cup event with the girls qualifying for the finals and finishing joint 1st. Our Mini Red players competed in the East Region Inter-County event with the girls taking second position and the boys finishing third.

The forced change to the doubles league was brilliantly reorganised by Lee Evans and this ensured, whilst not being normal, that clubs enjoyed some competitive tennis. The 2021 events known as the NHS Challenge Cup and the Corona Cup have generally been regarded as a success.

The Harris Cup knockout event which started in 2020 became an event over two years. The results for 2020-2021 saw Hoddesdon Ladies beat Barnet Ladies and Welwyn Men beat Barnet Men. The finals were held at West Herts and next year they will be held at Berkhamsted.

The 10 and under Performance programme was slightly remodelled and Herts sit very high nationally in this regard. We had 30 players at the National Championships between the ages of 10 and 18. We had 2 doubles winners, 5 runners up and 2 semi-finalists. Training for County Juniors started again and several friendly matches were organised.

County Week was back in July after a one year break. Herts Ladies and Men were both in Group 1 in Eastbourne. Following on from winning the event in 2019 the Ladies continued their winning way by retaining the title. The Men ended in 3rd place. We are lucky, or we would say by design,

to have such a pool of young players to call on. We often find that as life catches up with some of our older players, whilst they go a few years without playing, they then come back to support us at Over 35 and onwards.

The County Championships were held at Rickmansworth once again at the end of August. It produced a fabulous week of tennis. Over the last three years, from the County perspective it's a perfect venue and it has helped to rekindle that special County Champs atmosphere.

Participation has been a major project in 2021 building on and developing locally the LTA Tennis Opened Up initiative.

In order to maximise financial support, we have set up Herts Tennis Foundation enabling Herts to offer opportunities to people to access our assets via the Schools programme, Play Your Way and Open Court tennis.

The LTA Youth Schools programme objective is to train as many primary school teachers as possible with the new LTA Youth programme, offering each school that completed training a £250 voucher to be spent on coaching or equipment. Through the dedicated hard work of the Herts Tennis Foundation team and County Sports Partnership we have supported new and strengthened existing school club links and collectively enabled over £17k of funding towards this initiative. To date 81 primary schools have completed training, 58 with existing links to clubs and 23 new links have been made. We continue to work to get more primary school teachers trained and now the offer has been extended to secondary schools.

When tennis was allowed the Play Your Way in Herts initiative was born. The project started during summer 2020 and continues to grow and we have introduced over 100 new 'non club' players to tennis with many playing regularly within these sessions and many also converting to membership or additional coaching sessions at the partner venue. To achieve this, we have worked with various venues and invited non regular players to come along and receive a free taster session followed by subsidised sessions. These events have been well supported and we would welcome new venues to come on board to extend these opportunities. For more information contact the County Office. Post lockdown we have been able to offer tennis to over 400 players across the range of the disability sectors under our Open Court programme that runs in 8 venues across the county. We are actively seeking further venues to reach out to more of our disabled community'.



The County Championships Orange team

Annual Report 2021



Open Court Programme - courtesy of the LTA

On more general issues the LTA launched the Tennis Volunteer Community Group on Facebook, a group for volunteers to help and support each other and to share best practice and we have supported this with promotion of the group and its events and activities.

We continue to offer county courts at Gosling for hire to our Registered Venues, details of availability can be obtained from the County Office.

In August we were finally able to host a small ceremony to celebrate the LTA and County Awards, not only for 2021 but to recognise the winners from 2020 when we had sadly had to cancel our planned Awards Dinner event. We hosted a delightful afternoon tea at Tewin Bury Farm and all the winners that came had a very enjoyable time.

In October and in support of the Herts Tennis Coaches Forum Group we were finally able to hold a face-to-face coach forum event at Batchwood with guest presenters Tom and Ed Corrie and Nick Cavaday. The event was very well supported and the content was excellent.

Safeguarding is a major issue in all sports these days. Herts Tennis is very lucky to have a great Safeguarding Manager in Tessa Terry. She liaises with all the clubs regularly and the co-operation from the clubs has been first class.

On a personal note, I am sorry to say that I am leaving the Herts Committee after 46 years. What a journey it has been.

I should like to express my thanks to the past and present committee members who have all worked so hard to provide and develop opportunities in all aspects of tennis in Herts. A special thanks to the current committee. Development through Bridie Amos, who is also our LTA representative, Participation Matt Willcocks, Lee Evans for controlling all our competitive activities, Janet Corrie who is responsible for working with Teresa Lilley organising all coaching and county activities for our performance players, Tessa Terry for working so hard on Safeguarding in our county, Helen Elliott who as Secretary has to deal with all questions from clubs and with me pestering her for minutes, to Martin Corrie for making sure that the County is in a good financial position and to Carole Draper who is not only our volunteer member but is also our County Manager and knows the answers to all questions.

To Jennifer Keates who for decades has looked after mini tennis, now renamed as LTA Youth. Jennifer was awarded with a Meritorious Service Award at this year's awards event.

To our paid staff Carole, Sharon and Teresa without whom we would not be able to cope, you have all been fantastic.

I have loved every minute of my time in Herts, and I can tell you all that you are very lucky to have such hardworking and dedicated people to help keep tennis strong in this great County.

Trevor Adamson

Safeguarding Update 2021

A new LTA Safeguarding Strategy has been launched for 2021-23, but whilst all Level 3-5 Coaches must be accredited by registration ending in mid-December 2021, the proposed accreditation of Level 2 Coaching Assistants is postponed to 2022. www.lta.org/about-us/safeguarding-protection

Herts Tennis has recently reviewed all the related policies and procedures for County Training, Team Events, Activities and Competitions, which may be viewed on our website <https://hertstennis.co.uk/about-us/safeguarding>

We have updated some policies and procedures to include Online Safety and Communication, Photography and Filming, Supervision of Children, Safe Recruitment and Codes of Conduct for: Staff and Volunteers; Coaches and Team Captains; Parents and Carers; and Players, which you may find provide useful templates for your venues to follow.

You may contact Tessa Terry, our County Safeguarding Officer for advice and guidance on safeguarding matters, however, where there is a concern about abuse/disclosure from a child or adult at risk, (unless someone is in immediate danger or risk of harm, in which case the police should be called on 999), please follow the Safeguarding Report Procedure:

- Contact the LTA Safeguarding Team on safeguarding@lta.org.uk;
- complete the Online Concern Form <https://safeguardingconcern.lta.org.uk>; and
- inform the County Safeguarding Officer on csohertfordshire@gmail.com

If you are unable to contact/feel uncomfortable contacting the LTA Safeguarding Team/CSO, you may contact the Local Authority Designated Officer through Children's Services on 0300 123 4043 or Adult Services on 0300 123 4042 or the NSPCC on 0800 500 5000.

Tessa Terry

www.hertstennis.co.uk

Get Set 4 Tennis Open Day

Herts Tennis can provide funding for open days and Herts club Get Set 4 Tennis were able to take advantage of this when they held an Open Day in June.

The funding was used to purchase additional inclusive equipment for SEND children who had signed up for the session. The day was attended by around 30 families many of whom signed up for lessons in the Autumn term.

For information about funding for open days, please see the 'Herts Tennis Grants and Loans Scheme' on the 'About Us' page of our website.



The Coaches' Forum held during half term

Herts Tennis Coaches Forum

In the absence of an LTA Roadshow this year, usually held on the Thursday of the October half term, the Herts Tennis Coaches Forum agreed to use the day to organise a coaching event. This was one of the first opportunities for coaches to get together and enjoy presentations, a welcome change to the enforced online training.

Over 40 coaches were able to enjoy two first-class presentations. Herts own Tom and Ed Corrie spoke about their experiences of Ed playing and Tom coaching him on the ATP tour, with focus on "What Tennis Taught Us" the skills that are taken away from the court'. Coaches were engaged throughout, with plenty of discussion and interesting questions asked.

This was followed by Nick Cavaday, currently Head of Tennis at Loughborough University, who presented on 'Development philosophy and skill development U12's to WTA/ATP Tours.' With Nick having been involved in the development of the Emma Raducanu forehand, an on-court session putting Ed through the same coaching routines was enjoyed by all.

We continue to organise our annual First Aid courses. We were able to eventually run our postponed January courses in May at Berkhamsted LTC and two further courses have now been arranged for Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th January 2022. These will be held at Harpenden LTC costing only £40, as usual subsidised by the Coaches Forum. Email hertstennis@gmail.com if you want one of the few remaining places.

At all times we welcome feedback from all coaches in Hertfordshire. We always use first class tutors and we have funds to subsidise any coach education event.

Alison Allard



Around 30 families attended the open day

People and Clubs

LTA Youth in Herts Schools

Over 140 teachers from nearly 100 of our primary schools in Herts have taken advantage of the free LTA Youth training for teachers which was launched in the Spring of 2021. This two-hour training programme, written by teachers in conjunction with the LTA, goes well beyond just delivering tennis - the focus is on movement skills and physical literacy, as well as personal development and character education.

Teachers attending the course receive a £250 voucher (limited to one per school) to spend on 10 hours coaching support from a local LTA Accredited Coach or tennis equipment for their school.

Herts Tennis, through the Herts Tennis Foundation, has been working hard with the School Games Organisers (SGOs) in Herts to help forge links between primary schools and their local tennis clubs, venues and coaches. Now that so many teachers and school sports providers have completed the training the focus is on setting up coach led tennis sessions in schools and then developing pathways back from the school sessions to club and venue programmes, for example, through school festivals at clubs, or invitations to taster sessions on coaching programmes. Having the pupils see a familiar face in a club or venue really helps with the transition to playing tennis in a new environment and their enjoyment of tennis at school can

be reinforced and developed further to help foster a lifelong love of the game.

In September 2021 the LTA launched a similar scheme for secondary school teachers, again with the opportunity to access a £250 voucher to spend on 10 hours of coaching support with a local LTA accredited coach or tennis equipment. Both schemes are now live and ongoing through the 2021/22 academic year so encourage your local schools to sign up now.

Tennis is recognised as a fantastic way to improve the physical and mental health of pupils so let's see if we can make it a mission to get tennis activity happening in every Hertfordshire school! For more information on LTA Youth teacher training in Herts please contact The Herts Tennis Foundation team at PYWherts@gmail.com

Bridie Amos



Photo courtesy of LTA Youth



The Play Your Way in Herts programme sees Hertfordshire Tennis and its partner tennis clubs and venues work together to create welcoming, fun and affordable tennis opportunities for adults and children.

The ultimate aims of the programme are to make tennis widely accessible, increase participation and impact positively on the lives of people in Herts by helping them be more active and feel they belong within the sport and are part of the Herts Tennis family.

The Play Your Way in Herts initiative started during summer 2020 and continues to grow. We have introduced over 100 new 'non club' players to tennis with many playing regularly within these weekly sessions.

There have also been a good number of players converting to club membership or attending additional coaching sessions at the partner venue bringing additional funds into the venue.

We work with various venues inviting non regular players to come along and receive a free taster session. Sessions are then available at a highly subsidised cost and on a pay and play basis. These events have been well supported and we would welcome new venues to come on board to extend these opportunities to welcome more non and lapsed players. For more information contact the County Office hertstennis@gmail.com

Open Court Programme

The Hertfordshire Open Court Programme is back up and running throughout 8 clubs across the county and disabled players can again access and be active through tennis post Lockdown.

Throughout the programme we are able to offer sessions to a range of disabilities including learning disability, physical impairment, visual impairment, hearing impairment and also mental health sessions.

We have throughout the summer run sessions within club programmes as well as outreach sessions in a range of both SEN schools and day-care centres. This has allowed over 400 disabled people to be active through tennis.

As a county we are looking to continuously grow our offer to the disabled community and allow them to experience the benefits both physically and socially that tennis can offer. If as a club you would like to know more on how you can join the Open Court network and what support we can offer clubs then please contact PYWHerts@gmail.com

Phil Martin

In Memoriam

Sadly, we have said goodbye to several long-standing friends from the Herts Tennis family in the last year. Our thoughts and sympathies are with their families and friends:

Sheila Burley Daphne Davis Peter Gosbell
John Tillin Christopher Grenside



The British Army Comes to Rickmansworth

In July, Rickmansworth Tennis Club hosted the British Army national tennis team as part of the Club's Centenary celebrations.

The Army team used the match as a warm-up event for their national inter-services tournament against the Royal Marines and Royal Air Force which took place 2 weeks later at Wimbledon. The Army team featured ex-Davis Cup and European tour players, whilst Rickmansworth pulled out all their "big-guns" as well as a few semi-retired foot soldiers. The

match format was 6 singles matches and 3 doubles matches, with the British Army victorious in a thrilling event, eventually succeeding 6 matches to 3.

British Army captain, Ben Rogers advised that he was delighted that Rickmansworth could arrange the match during these challenging times and that the standard of opposition was great preparation for their interservices tournament. Ben hopes that this will become an annual event that will also include the British Army Ladies first team.

With thanks to Mark O'Brien

For the full article, please see our website

<https://hertstennis.co.uk/2021/07/16/the-british-army-comes-to-rickmansworth-tennis-club/>

Small Facilities Grants

Herts Tennis has a number of grants available for small venues that are looking to refurbish and update facilities and equipment.

The following clubs were able to benefit from grants this year:

Rothamsted –

funding towards refurbishment and landscaping of grounds

St Margaretsbury -

funding towards LED court lighting

Much Hadham –

funding towards clubhouse renewal



All set for play under the new floodlights

St Margaretsbury Tennis Club Floodlights

St Margaretsbury Tennis Club, in Stanstead Abbots, recently celebrated the installation of new floodlights by holding an official opening ceremony.

The previous floodlights only covered two of our three courts and were old and temperamental, often only coming on intermittently. We now have three courts perfectly illuminated with state-of-the-art floodlights.

This is a significant upgrade to our facilities and is the culmination of several years' work by a number of committee members, particularly Peter Eldon who initiated and oversaw the project from start to finish. We are indebted to Herts LTA, Stanstead Abbots Parish Council and East Herts District Council for their generous support and financial assistance without which we would not have been able to complete this project.

With thanks to St Margarets TC



Rothamsted court repairs - before and after



Much Hadham begins building their new clubhouse

Herts Tennis Awards 2021



Bishops Stortford



Watford & District League



Sus Sharma



Get Set 4 Tennis

After two years of not being able to hold our annual awards event, we were delighted to be able to acknowledge and award our deserving winners for 2020 and 2021 at a special afternoon tea held at Tewin Bury Farm Hotel in Welwyn Garden City in August.

After tea, the awards were presented to the recipients and it was wonderful to finally have the opportunity to cheer and thank the dedicated clubs, players, coaches, officials and volunteers for their superb efforts in supporting the county.

A Meritorious Service Award was also presented to Jennifer Keates. This award is one of the highest honours given by the LTA. It recognises the substantial contribution made by an individual over their lifetime to tennis at a County, Regional or National level. It was a wonderful occasion to acknowledge Jennifer's hard work and the passion for the game that she has displayed over so many years, she is a most worthy recipient.



Hoddesdon Ladies



Cassiobury



Welwyn



Herts Ladies Seniors Doubles League



Ian Zellner



Jamie Broomfield



Jennifer Keates



Sam Price



Sam Pink



Pam Stoten

LTA Tennis Awards 2020 – County Stage Winners

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Lifetime Achievement | Nick Birchall |
| Volunteer of the Year | Ainsley Culbert |
| Young Person of the Year | Sam and John Paul (joint winners) |
| Coach of the Year | Ian Zellner |
| Club of the Year | Bishops Stortford LTC |
| Community Programme | Parktennis |
| Disability Programme | Suman Sharma |
| Official of the Year | Jamie Broomfield |
| Competition of the Year | Watford & District League |

Additional County Awards

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Mark Seymour Award | David Latter |
| Laing Award | Indianna Spink |
| County Colours | David Stevenson |
| County Colours | Mimi Bland |

Performance Awards

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Winning 15/15 at County Cup | Emily Arbuthnott |
| Performance of the Year | Annabel Davis |

Herts League 2019

Ladies Champions - Letchworth; Men's Champions - Welwyn

Harris Cup 2019

Ladies Champions - Hoddesdon; Men's Champions - Moor Park



Moor Park

LTA Tennis Awards 2021 - County Stage Winners

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Development Coach of the Year | Sam Pink |
| Performance Coach of the Year | Sam Price |
| Club of the Year | Cassiobury LTC |
| Volunteer of the Year | Pam Stoten (Hoddesdon) |
| Education Award | Get Set 4 Tennis |
| Communities & Parks Award | Parktennis, Harpenden |
| Disability Award | Get Set 4 Tennis |
| Competition of the Year | Herts Ladies Seniors Doubles League |



Marion on behalf of David Stevenson



Jon Paul & Sam



Kevin Spink on behalf of Indi Spink



Letchworth LTC

Herts Teams Reports

Herts Ladies

Summer County Cup 2021 - Eastbourne

This year's summer county cup felt like a huge privilege given the challenges of the last year with the Pandemic ceasing all adult county cup competitions for over a year. The ladies were thrilled that the event was able to go ahead, and were keen to defend the title from 2019!

Day one saw us take on Yorkshire, a team with some great doubles experience. The sun was shining, the grass courts were fresh, and we were so happy to start the campaign to defend our title. The day started well with a clean sweep in the first and second rounds clinching two 10-point deciding tie-breaks on the way. We decided to rest Indi who was managing a comeback from a wrist injury and gave Jessica her first ladies summer county cup match which she won with an experienced Mimi Bland. We finished the day with a great 8-1 win and start to our campaign.

Day two was off-site against Middlesex, a team that is always very pumped up for matches, and that never gives up. Middlesex had some great depth in its team, and showed some great doubles tactics. Our ladies moved up a gear and showed some really classy tennis and closed out the day with another 8-1 win.

Our third day was back on site at Eastbourne against Leicestershire who were promoted from group 2 in 2019, and who had only taken one match in the last two days. We knew this was a good opportunity for us to extend our lead, and again, we got off to a great start winning all matches in the first round. The second round was much the same, with all of our ladies continuing to show a great level of tennis. In the last round, we substituted our third pair and gave Catherine her Summer County Cup debut alongside Jessica. They played a great match and lost out closely in a third-set tie break, whilst our other two pairs continued their winning streaks taking us to another 8-1 win.

At this point in the week, it becomes clearer who the top teams are, and whilst there is always still a long way to go, we couldn't have put ourselves in a better situation. We were up against Hampshire and IOW, who were also undefeated up until this stage. We were off-site again, and the Herts Family was great at coming over to support such an important day. The first round was really tight, something we'd not experienced yet this week. All three of our matches went to a 10-point deciding tie-break! It was so close, and we managed to clinch two of them taking us to 2-1. In the next round we took another

two rubbers taking us to a 4-2 lead. They made some substitutions, and brought on some fresh legs which helped a little with their energy. The last round was another close one with two more matches going to deciding tie-breaks, but not in our favour this time. Emily and Amanda had a fairly comfortable win taking us to the five matches we needed, and we ended the day with a 5-4 win.

We were excited for the last day, and certainly had our eye on the title! For the first time in many years, Friday was a nice sunny day and we could enjoy playing our last day back at the main Eastbourne venue. We were up against Surrey who had lost twice in the week, but had also brought in new players throughout the week. They are always a tough county, and the ladies stayed really focused. We got off to a good start leading 2-1, and managed to extend our lead to 4-2 after the second round. We were pretty sure we couldn't be caught, but equally wanted to win the week outright by beating all the teams, which is exactly what we did!

The feeling of retaining the title and becoming champions again was such a good one, especially after the cancellation in 2020. The team comradery the ladies showed was exceptional, with every individual playing their part. Emily and Amanda ended their week on an incredible 14 wins in total, with Mimi securing 12 and Indi 11! In addition to that Georgie Walker & Annabel Davis won four out of five of their deciding tie-breaks all week, and Jessica and Catherine made their summer debuts! I'm so proud of each and every one of them on such a superb achievement.

Team members: **Emily Arbuthnott, Mimi Bland, Annabel Davis, Amanda Elliott, Indi Spink, Georgie Walker, Jessica and Catherine**

Alissa Ayling, Herts Ladies Captain



2021 Herts Ladies - Summer County Cup Champions!

Herts Men

Team members: Neil Bamford, David Stevenson, Oliver, Neil Roskilly, Josh Rose, James Wilkinson, Hamid Hejazi, Ed Corrie.

The good and the bad. The bad news was sadly Jeff (Herts Capt. forever) was unable to captain and Bammy was moved into the HOT SEAT. The good news was at long last the wait was over and Summer County Cup was back.

After the horrible last two years we have had due to Covid 19, with every county, captain and player unsure if the event would go ahead, it finally happened. On the first day (Monday) all restrictions were lifted and every person in the UK was able to try to go back to normality again.

With all that has happened before and the current situation with travel and everything going on, Herts suffered with availability. Players struck down with covid, isolation and unable to travel we entered the first day with only six players to play Kent.

With a phone call the week before, Hamid Hejazi made himself (as always) available.

So, what can we expect on the first day? Well after 15 mins we were a set up thanks to Bammy and Stevenson with a 6-0 set, sadly it couldn't continue and after the day's play, we had sadly lost to a really strong Kent side (Champions) 9-0. But every player gave 100% including Hamid who came in for Rd 3.

Tuesday brought some changes in all our pairs, young Ollie (who had recently played junior Wimbledon) partnered the experienced Bamford. The pair delivered three wins (including saving two match points) with Roskilly and Stevenson picking up two vital wins to take the match 5-4.

Again, the team spirit was a joy to be part of.

Wednesday took us across to Moira House which if anything, has had many amazing battles. This was another one of the all-time great county matches and Essex with such a strong and experienced team were our opponents.

The match came down to the deciding 9th rubber at 4-4. As I always say, this is what county week is all about, every supporter and every player, eyes fixed on one last match to decide a winner and a loser. This provides such a great team spirit and atmosphere which is what county week is about. Two wins for Wilkinson and Rose were incredible and showed that they both belong in Group 1, which got us to 4-4.

Roskilly and Stevenson were down two match points in the 2nd set but they survived, and then took the win 10-7 in the



match Tie Break. Even though Herts were outnumbered in supporters, we all made up for it with our support and noise which pulled the two guys through. **An UNREAL win 5-4.**

Thursday vs East of Scotland. A young and upcoming county who provided a lot of fireworks in all matches and brought a new intensity to county week. A county that in the next few years will have a very good chance of winning group 1.

Now with Ed Corrie available the Herts side became stronger and the pairs were shuffled. Sadly, East of Scotland proved too strong and won a tight match 5-4. A chance did slip by when for the 3rd day in a row a pair had match points and lost, but sadly this time we were on the wrong end of it. Amazingly it was now three days in a row that it had happened.

Going into Friday and knowing that Herts was now safe in Group 1 and Suffolk was already relegated it became a bit of a dead match. Herts didn't let up and made sure of the win with a 9-0 victory.

An amazing week back at county week with Herts finishing 3rd. With so many players unavailable and at times down to only seven players per day, it was an immense effort. Team players gained great experience and also won matches. The team spirit was a joy to be part of and we all can't wait for next year. Thanks again to all our supporters who came down to support us even in such uncertain times. Something us as players never forget and can't thank you for enough.

A big thank you to Jeff who behind the scenes does so much for Hertfordshire, with so many complications that occurred it was even more incredible that he made it happen.

County week is here to stay.

Neil Bamford

Herts Teams Reports

Hertfordshire Junior County Team Report 2021

We are pleased to report that 2021 saw Herts County teams back in action and it was great to have our players representing Hertfordshire again, enjoying playing alongside their team-mates, supporting each other off court and wearing their county t-shirts with pride... and what a successful year 2021 was!

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021 RESULTS

Under 8 Boys & Girls East Region Inter-County Competition – **Silver Medallists**

Under 9 Girls County Cup

Group Winners & National Finals 3rd

Under 9 Boys County Cup

Group Winners & National Finals 4th

Under 10 Boys & Girls County Cup

Group Winners

Under 11 Girls County Cup

Group Winners & National Finals 6th

Under 12 Boys & Girls County Cup

Group Winners

Under 14 Boys & Girls County Cup

Group Winners

County Cup 2021

This 2021 County Cup calendar saw the introduction of a new event for the 11 & under age group and national finals for qualifying 9 & under teams. Despite the travel restrictions limiting the 10u's, 12u's and 14u's age categories to group rounds only there was still plenty of opportunity for our players to experience competing in the prestigious County Cup competition. The Herts teams competed strongly across all the age groups with players, parents and captains showing great commitment, enthusiasm and teamwork throughout. Herts did incredibly well with 9 out of 10 of our teams winning their groups and the 11 & under girls, 9 & under boys and 9 & under girls' teams qualifying for the national finals.

The Herts 11 & under girls and their captain Sammie Williams travelled to Sheffield for their national finals where they had an epic weekend with impressive come backs, numerous match tie-breaks and nail-biting doubles shoot out deciders. The girls achieved an excellent 6th place and in Sammie's words "the girls were awesome, did amazingly and I was very proud".

For most of our 9 & under players this year's County Cup was their first experience of representing Hertfordshire and using the Fast4 scoring format! Following impressive performances in the qualifying rounds both the boys and girls topped their groups to earn a place in the national finals. The team travelled to Bath with team captains Andre Mouskides, Sarah Jackson, Chloe Hughes and Julie Spink. It was a busy day of singles and doubles matches starting at 9am and finishing early evening. The captains reported fantastic attitudes from



our young players who displayed the Herts values throughout and battled hard to achieve finishing positions of 3rd for girls and 4th for the boys.

County Cup 2021 Teams

9u Girls – Group Winners & National Finals 3rd Place:

Catherine, Eloise, Harmony-Abigail, Mylie and Phoebe

Captain: Sarah Jackson / Assistant: Julie Spink

9u Boys – Group Winners & National Finals 4th Place: Evan,

Freddie, Mathis, Thomas and Vihaan

Captain: Andre Mouskides / Assistant: Chloe Hughes

10u Girls – Group Winners: Adaugo, Amber, Aurelia, Charleigh and Macy

Captain: Sammie Williams

10u Boys – Group Winners: Finlay, Leo, Matthew, Max, Thomas and William

Captain: Craig Blythe

11u Girls – Group Winners and National Finals 6th Place: Ava-Rose, Elena, Fern, Julia, Sophie and Tara

Captain: Sammie Williams

11u Boys – Group Runners-up: Adam, Noah, Robert, Samuel and Xander

Captain: Chris Martin

12u Girls – Group Winners: Gabby, Grace, Katie, Rose and Sophia

Captain: Ian Zellner

12u Boys – Group Winners: Aoun, Daniel, James, Kaaviyan, Pavana and Rhys,

Captain: Ben Wilsher

14u Girls – Group Winners: Arabella, Dina, Georgiana, Jody, Sophia and Tamara

Captain: Teresa Lilley

14u Boys – Group Winners: Alexandru, Ben, Enrico, Henry and Kevin

Captain: Greg Quesnel

Alongside our fantastic travelling team players named above, we would also like to say a big thank you to the players named as team reserves and their parents; your commitment to being available should we need you to travel



8U East Region Inter-County Runners-Up



12U Girls County Cup



11U Boys County Cup



10U Girls County Cup



9U Boys County Cup

(sometimes even on the night before!) is greatly appreciated and vital to the success of our teams. We are fortunate to have a strong pool of players wanting to represent Hertfordshire and we know when we call up our reserves that we have very capable and keen competitors joining us!

Mini-Red East Region Inter-County Competition – RUNNERS-UP

The 8 & under inter-county competition is the very first experience of a county event for our youngest players and it sees red ball players from across the east region come together for a fun packed day of high energy singles matches. This year was a little unique as we had players represent Hertfordshire and Anglia in teams made up of Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire players. It was great to give more of our young players the opportunity to be involved as they had all shown great enthusiasm, ambition to learn and improve in the training sessions leading up to the event.

The girl’s team was the first to compete, and they performed with great determination and team spirit. Team Herts made it through to the final where they were narrowly edged out by Berkshire girls to earn a 2nd place and the Anglia team were placed a very respectable 5th. Up next were the Herts and Anglia boys’ teams; the competition from the opposing counties was tough but our boys rose to the challenge extremely well and battled hard from start to finish. After some very competitive matches and lots of close 9-9 next point wins the Herts boys finished 3rd and the Anglia boys 8th. With the girls and boy’s match results tallied it was Cambridgeshire who lifted the 2021 trophy and Herts who claimed very well-deserved silver medals.

Following the event there was lots of positive feedback from parents about how much the children had enjoyed the day and how well the Herts players had supported each other and worked as a team which was great to hear. Thank you to Monica Becerra who captained our four teams so brilliantly and to Ben and Yonatan from the Herts Inspires My Tennis Future programme who assisted and gave great support to the players throughout the day. Everyone involved can be very proud!

Herts Overall - Silver Medallists

Girls - 2nd Place:

Amelie, April, Claudia, Ivy, Robin, Theresa, YoYo, Zara and Zosia

Boys - 3rd Place:

Ari, Isaac, Jackson, James, Mathis, Noah, Riyan, Rufus and William

Captains: **Monica Beccera**

Assistants: **Ben and Yonatan**

Friendly Matches

In 2019, Herts Tennis introduced friendly County matches to increase the number of players given the opportunity to experience playing for Hertfordshire in County team competition. These matches have been very well received by both players and parents and have been a great extension to the support and development of Herts players. We have had some great matches over the last few years and

Herts Teams Reports

although called “friendly matches” the competitive energy and attitudes from all the players involved has been excellent. A big well done to the following players who represented Hertfordshire in the 2021 friendly matches:

12 & under Girls: **Ella, Fern, Olivia and Tanya**

12 & under Boys: **Freddie, Harry, James and Jamie**

10 & under Mixed: **Byron, Emma, Evie, India, Jasper and Lucas**

9 & under Mixed: **Aiden, Amaya, Benjamin, Claudia, Noah and Theresa**

Preparing for 2021 - 2022

I am pleased to report that we are now back to a full timetable of County training sessions across the age groups and after the disruptions of last year it is great to see our players back in action on a regular basis. As we prepare for team events in 2021-2022 our county captains and coaches are focussed on helping Herts players further develop their doubles skills, resilience in match tie-breaks and teamwork



12U Boys Group Winners

while embedding the Herts Tennis values, which have been on display brilliantly this year!

We would like to thank all players, team captains, county coaches, assistants, parents and reserves for your ongoing commitment to your tennis and your loyalty to the Herts Tennis family.

Go Herts!

Teresa Lilley, Herts County Performance Manager

Honesty - Excellence - Resilience - Teamwork - Sportsmanship

Hertfordshire’s New Support Programme for Junior Tennis Players

The “Herts Inspires My Tennis Future” programme launched in early 2021 for Hertfordshire’s most dedicated and enthusiastic tennis players in year 10 and above.

The programme strengthens the tennis pathway for Herts juniors by providing a variety of tennis experiences and activities designed to raise playing standards, provide work experiences, volunteering opportunities and offer career and tennis university advice. The goal of the programme is to reward commitment and develop a range of transferable life skills while creating a sense of belonging to ultimately keep our young players involved in tennis for the longer term.

Since the start of the programme in February 2021 the Herts Futures participants have benefitted from a variety of career workshops including sessions with Tom and Ed Corrie giving insight to the journey from being a county junior through to competing at Wimbledon, GB Universities with Alistair Higham, Strength & Conditioning with Daz Drake and US Universities with James Buswell and Pippa Lane. The Herts Futures participants are all keen and capable tennis players who love to be on the tennis court; so, to support their game development and tennis knowledge, they have accessed regular training workshops delivered by Hertfordshire performance coaches. The participants have also accessed work experience days matched to their chosen interests including working alongside referees to learn about officiating, supporting county captains with training/team events and working with tennis coaches in a variety of fields including performance, disability and club development.

A key part of the programme is “Tennis Pay Back” where the participants volunteer at events such as the county championships, club sessions and county training activities; we have seen great enthusiasm and energy from all involved and the Herts Futures participants have been a great



addition to the activities. Herts Tennis is keen to support Herts Futures participants who want to take their first steps onto the coaching pathway through partnerships with Ucoach and local coach education providers. The participants can access discounted LTA coach qualification courses, and several have already completed the LTA Leaders and LTA Level 1/Assistant courses.

The programme has been very well received and we currently have 21 juniors enrolled. Juniors can apply to join the programme independently or can be nominated by their tennis coach/club. Herts Tennis is keen to identify and recruit new candidates so if you are interested in finding out more, please visit www.hertstennis.co.uk/coaching/herts-inspires-my-tennis-future/



The Barnet Ladies with their supporters

Barnet just miss out in The Harris Cup... twice!

This summer finally saw the conclusion of the 20/21 Harris Cup Men's and Ladies competitions, with finals held at West Herts in late August and early September.

Named after two great servants to tennis in the County over many years, John and Val Harris, the Harris Cup is the County's 2-Pair Knockout Cup event.

The 1st round was held way back in October 2020 but the competitions had been stop-start ever since owing to a certain virus.

In the Men's competition, Welwyn and Barnet reached the final by respectively putting out last year's finalists, Bishop's Stortford and Moor Park, at the semi-final stage.

While in the Ladies competition, Barnet had built up a great head of steam in coming out on top in matches against Moor Park, Northaw & Cuffley and Welwyn. This contrasted with Hoddesdon's far easier passage, which due to the withdrawals of teams who didn't feel ready to step back onto court, only consisted of a semi-final against Harpenden.

Both finals were memorable, with Barnet cheered on by a quite phenomenal band of travelling supporters, but despite very tight first rounds they ultimately left for home empty handed. Instead the trophies went the way of the more fancied Welwyn Men and Hoddesdon Ladies.

Thanks go to all four teams for treating those who were lucky enough to attend the finals to some superb tennis and many thanks also to West Herts for stepping in at short notice to host.



The Welwyn Men's team

Herts National League 2021

Summer 2021 was a challenging year for all Herts clubs and entries for the Herts National League Summer were down on previous years. However, 150 teams entered.

Clubs taking part were: Batchwood, Berkhamsted, Bishops Stortford, Brookmans Park, Broxbourne, Cassiobury, Chorleywood, Codicote, David Lloyd Bushey, Elliswick, Gosling, Greenwood Park, HBS, Harpenden, Hertford, Hoddesdon, Letchworth, Leverstock Green, Moor Park, Orchard, Potters Bar, Radlett, Rickmansworth, Royston, St Albans, Sawbridgeworth, Townsend, Tring, Welwyn, West Herts & Watford, Wheathampstead.

It is encouraging to see 100 clubs have entered the Herts National League Winter and hopefully next summer more clubs will be ready to compete.

Inter-Club Competition



Corona Cup - Brookmans Park ladies



NHS Challenge Cup - Welwyn & Harpenden Men's 1st teams

A Herts League with a difference

Things were looking decidedly dodgy when thoughts turned to this year's Herts league. With all the uncertainty surrounding restrictions that existed, would it be possible to run the competition as usual? Would people want to commit?

The answer from most venues was a resounding yes, while from others it was a polite no thank you. None of that came

as a massive surprise. Tennis players are a microcosm of society and at the time society was anything but certain about how much to relax as restrictions were doing precisely that. It also helped to make the decision about whether to run The Herts League all too easy. We couldn't play a competition which had consequences for the future when not everybody was ready to play. So, we parked the Herts League for another year.

In its place was born a one-off event, the aim of which was to allow everybody who was ready to play competitive tennis to do so as safely as possible. Who knows...the lack of



NHS Challenge Cup - Townsend 1st & Welwyn 2nd Men's teams

HERTS TENNIS VALUES

Honesty - Excellence - Resilience - Teamwork - Sportsmanship

a threat of relegation or of the pressure of securing promotion may even add to the enjoyment! With car-sharing a big issue, initially at least, The Corona Cup – the Ladies competition and the Men’s equivalent, The NHS Challenge Cup – began in May with a localised group stage designed to cut down on the amount of travelling.

At the end of August, when the group matches had been completed, most teams signalled that the competition had successfully done its job. However, for teams who were extremely keen to continue, a number of follow on play-offs or in some cases, unofficial finals, were arranged.

The two winners of the NHS Challenge Cup Championship divisions – Harpenden (Championship West) and Welwyn (East) played one such ‘final’ and what a match it was. Both clubs fielded fantastic teams which involved a number of current and past County players and the match went down to the wire. In fact Welwyn saved several match points before sneaking home. Like the competition as a whole, the result hadn’t been the most important thing though. It was played in a competitive spirit yes, but it was clear that everybody was just happy to be back on court doing something they’d missed.

The winners of the two Ladies Championship divisions didn’t get to play their own final but St Albans – who won the Championship West division – undoubtedly deserve a mention, having won a whopping 32 and lost just 4 of the rubbers they played between May and August.

So to 2022....and (fingers crossed) the return of the regular

Herts League. Feedback on the new shorter format, which was voted in at the 2019 AGM and trialled and used throughout the summer, has generally been really positive. There have been some concerns voiced - that matches are now too short and that the rubbers ought to be played in a different order – but with everybody’s blessing we’ll give it another go next year and take it from there.

I would like to finish by thanking everybody who played a part, however big or small, in enabling these competitions to run. You may have helped get your venue ready for a safe return to tennis, or perhaps put your hand up to be a captain or sought feedback from members about how keen they were to compete. You may have suggested a name for one of the competitions. Or you may just be someone who said they’d step back on to a court to play for your venue. Believe me, it all counts. Thank you!

Lee Evans

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Facebook, Twitter
and Instagram.**



Corona Cup - Totteridge & Townsend ladies

Individual Successes

Hertfordshire players continue to shine on the International and National stage. We are very proud of all their achievements. These statistics are accurate as the newsletter went to press.

Key:

ATP - Association of Tennis Professional,
WTA - Women's Tennis Association
ITA - Intercollegiate Tennis Association,
ITF - International Tennis Federation,
TE - Tennis Europe, **LTA** - Lawn Tennis Association,
GB - Great Britain, **S** - singles, **D** - doubles, **W** - win,
r/u - runner up, **s/f** - semi final.

MEN/BOYS

Charlie Broom: ATP - 849 singles, 730 - doubles; GB - 59.

Finn Bass: Baylor University, ATP - 1447 singles, 1060 doubles; ITA - 116, Doubles - 27.

Jake Penny: Lipscomb University Nashville reading Psychology.

James Wilkinson: University of Delaware reading Economics.

David Stevenson: Memphis reading Business Economics, ITA- 76 singles, 5- doubles.

Daniel Martin: University of Minnesota.

David Latter: Loughborough University.

Myles Hall: Leeds University.

Joel: - ITF - 264, GB - 90 LTA Junior National Doubles R/U.

ITF Grade 3: Santo Domingo - S s/f, D W; Antalya - D r/u; Overarth - D s/f; Larnaca - S W, D r/u.

Joel: - University of New Mexico.

Oliver: ITF - 294; GB - 63; LTA Junior National Doubles R/U.

ITF Grade 3: Santo Domingo - S s/f D W; Grade 4: Larnaca - S r/u; Nairobi - S s/f, D s/f; Grade 5: Nairobi - S W. LTA British Tour: G1 Redbridge - s/f, G2 Taunton - S W; W Worthing - S W; N Oxford - S W. Oliver - sign on for San Diego State University.

Fabio: ITF - 583; GB - 135; 18U - 32; 16U - 3. LTA Junior National 16U - Singles s/f. ITF Grade 4: Loughborough - D r/u; Kranj D s/f; Radomlje - D r/u; Cairo D W. Grade 5: Stirling - S r/u; Edinburgh - D W; Giza - S s/f.

Ivan: National Visually impaired champion at single and doubles. Youngest member of the adult Team GB squad.

Enrico: GB - 14U -11. LTA Grade 2 Scottish Open 14U S s/f. Les Petit Tarbes - Q's

Rhys: GB:14U - 32,12U - 4. LTA WNT - S r/u. LTA Junior National 12U - S and D s/f. TE 12U: Repton - S and D s/f; Queenswood - D r/u; Halton - D s/f; Wrexham - S and D r/u. LTA Grade 2 - D W.

Pavana: GB: 12U -12. TE 12U - D r/u. LTA Grade 2 Scottish Open 12U - S r/u.

LADIES/GIRLS

Katy Dunne: WTA 456 singles; GB - 26. Joanna Garland: WTA 482 singles; GB - 23.

Anna Popescu: WTA 627 doubles. GB - 42.

Emily Arbuthnott: Masters at Cambridge. WTA - 588 doubles, GB - 32.

Georgie Walker: Masters at Cambridge.

Amelia Campbell: University of Tennessee at Martin reading Sports Management.

Georgie Axon: Auburn University reading Psychology and Business. ITA - 19 doubles.

Mimi Bland: Northern Arizona University.

Danielle Latter: Loughborough University.

Elizabeth Hodge: University of Nottingham.

Indianna Spink: University of Arkansas, ITA singles - 26; GB - 361.

Annabel: GB - 82: 18U - 28. LTA Junior National 18U Doubles R/U; British Tour W Worthing - S s/f.

Jessica: GB - 101, 18U - 41. LTA British Tour MD - s/f.

Hannah: ITF - 943; GB:18U - 40; 16U - 13. ITF Grade 4: Vierumaki - D W; Wrexham - D s/f; Grade 5: Vale de Lobo - D W; Stirling - D W; Telde - D W; Ingelheim - S s/f, D W.

Ava: GB 18U-85, 16U-36. LTA Grade2 Scottish Open - 16U D W. British Tour Ilkey - G2 S s/f. ITF Grade 4: Loughborough - D s/f.

Hephzibah: ITF 503; GB-77, 18U- 25,16U - 7, 14U - 2. Les Petit Tarbes 14U - S q/f D r/u. LTA Junior National 18U - D s/f; 16U - S s/f, D W, S s/f D r/u. British Tour Giffnock Open G2 - S W, D s/f. ITF Grade 4: Ramat Ha Sharon - D W; Grade 5: Accra - S r/u D W, Accra - S r/u, Kiryat Shmona - S W D s/f, Haifa - S r/u D s/f.

Dina: GB: 14U - 31. LTA Junior Team V IC Club in the John Dunningham Trophy.

Georgiana: GB:14U - 12. TE 14U cat 2 Portugal - S W, D r/u. LTA British Tour Giffnock Open G2 S r/u

Arabella: GB: 14U - 17. Les Petition Tarbes - Q's. TE 14U Repton - S s/f, Gran Canaria Yellow Bowl cat 2 - S W.

Rose: GB: 12U - 15. LTA WNT 12U - D W; Junior National 12U - D W, Scottish Open G2 12U - D r/u, Summer National Tour - D s/f. TE Queenswood 12U - D s/f, Wrexham 12U - D r/u

Janet Corrie, Performance Chairman - Nov 2021.

Keep up to date with Herts Tennis at
www.hertstennis.co.uk.

Herts County Championships winners and runners-up 2021

Event	Position	Name(s)	Position	Name(s)
Men's Singles	1	Christopher Grassick	2	Theo
Men's Doubles	1	Ryan & Freddie	2	Christopher & Neil Grassick
Ladies Singles	1	Marelie	2	Dina
18U Boy's Singles	1	Albert	2	Freddie
18U Girl's Singles	1	Marelie	2	Tamara
18U Boy's Doubles	1	Ryan & Freddie	2	Albert & Sean
18U Girl's Doubles	1	Sofia & Tamara	2	Mafalda & Dina
16U Boy's Singles	1	Alexander	2	Milo
16U Girl's Singles	1	Tamara	2	Arabella
16U Boy's Doubles	1	Elliott & Theo	2	Ben & Ivan
16U Girl's Doubles	1	Sofia & Tamara	2	Arabella & Youka
14U Boy's Singles	1	Alexandru	2	Kevin
14U Girl's Singles	1	Sophia	2	Grace
14U Boy's Doubles	1	Spencer & Alexandru	2	Daniel & Kaaviyan
14U Girl's Doubles	1	Erika & Michaela	2	Alessia & Raquelle
12U Boy's Singles	1	Kaaviyan	2	James
12U Boy's Doubles	1	Aoun & James	2	Daniel & Brandon
11U Boy's Singles	1	Xander	2	Noah
11U Girl's Singles	1	Julia	2	Sophie
10U Boy's Singles	1	Matthew	2	Leo
10U Girl's Singles	1	Macy	2	Catherine
9U Boy's Singles	1	Samuel	2	Freddie
9U Girl's Singles	1	Catherine	2	Phoebe
8U Boy's Singles	1	Ari	2	James
8U Girl's Singles	1	Ivy	2	April

Please can players keep hertstennis@gmail.com informed throughout the year of your highlights.

Individual Successes



County Championships Competitors 2021



Herts County players enjoy winning success in the US

Finn Bass and Charlie Broom

Herts County players Finn Bass and Charlie Broom helped their team Baylor Bears to victory in the Big 12 regular season championship.

Both men who are students at Baylor University in Texas are doubles partners and have been friends since the age of nine, both representing Hertfordshire in various County Cup competitions.

With Finn's and Charlie's help, the Baylor Bears are now the top team in the US as measured by the Oracle ITA Collegiate Tennis Rankings.

***Photos used with the permission of Baylor Men's Tennis**

Overview of Seniors' Winter League 2020-21

Ladies

At the start of 2020 winter tennis season tennis was still permitted with clubs being advised to follow LTA and Government guidelines.

The committee sent out to all clubs involved a COVID 19 delivery plan. In the light of this some clubs, understandably, decided not to participate in this season, particularly with the problem of having possible long travelling journeys.

The committee made plans to draw up a league involving close to home matches so there could still be some competitive play...players being asked to bring their own drinks and not to go into clubhouses wherever possible. However further Covid lockdown restrictions in December resulted in the league being abandoned. As very few matches had been played and as the competition was unfinished it was decided that the league would start again in Autumn 2021.

For the 2021-22 season there have been no promotions or relegations due to last year's curtailed season. In September league fixtures were sent out to all clubs.

There has been a great response and we have gained new clubs joining for the first time! To date all participating clubs have been organising their matches and it's all systems go!

The wonderful news for the our hard working committee is that we have been awarded the County Winner..." Competition of the Year" by the LTA!

Let's hope for a fruitful and enjoyable season!

Patricia Rayner

Men's

The Men's Seniors competition was of course faced with identical issues, which despite the heroic efforts of the league organiser, Basil Wein, ultimately led to the inevitable conclusion; to write the season off and start from scratch this Autumn.

Like the Ladies, the competition continues to grow and grow, both in terms of numbers and stature.

As we know it never rains but it pours and this year's competition is having to struggle with a very different foe this year - the apparent inability of the LTA software to cope with Herts Men's not overly complicated scoring system. But keep the faith, Basil's on the case!

Lee Evans

Herts County Ladies Seniors

Over 35s

Team: Anca Camen, Kelly McHugh, Pippa Parkes, Sarah Ward

HUGE thanks to the above players who all, at relatively short notice and during such uncertain times, managed to stay healthy and represent Herts this year.

The weather on Day 1 was simply dreadful! Some of the windiest conditions known at Devonshire Park. Durham & Cleveland's singles players were extremely strong and secured two wins. Following these matches, a competitive doubles took place in the tornado - with Herts unfortunately just missing out. This left us 3-0 down after what is termed, in the 35's format, as 'round one'. The remaining 2 rubbers (and all of round two) were cancelled by the referee due to the inclement weather.

Day 2 was a better day against Somerset, with Herts winning one of the two singles matches. Somerset managed to win all three of the incredibly close doubles matches - including championship tie break results. Therefore, the overall match score was 4-1 to Somerset and another tough day at the office for Herts.

The final day was incredibly challenging, against the eventual winners of Group 1 - Middlesex.

● Player of the weekend was Anca Camen - for some fantastic singles play.

● Congratulations to both Kelly McHugh (from Rickmansworth) and Sarah Ward (from Welwyn) - who both made their debut appearances in this event.

● And a special mention and thanks to Pippa Parkes - who stood in as captain for me this year - as well as captaining the 40's team.

Unfortunately, Hertfordshire will move down to Group 2 for the 2022 event, but we look forward to lots of new young players being available for selection and to fighting for our place back in the top division!

As always - please do get in touch with me through the Herts Office if you would like to get involved with the Over 35s or would like to suggest anyone from your Club who you think should be considered.

Sian Southwell-Sander

Over 40s

Herts v Middx Middx won 5-0

Players were Pippa Parkes, Rachael Sheridan, Anca Camen, Kelly McHugh

Sussex v Herts Sussex won 4-1

Players were Pippa Parkes, Rachael Sheridan, Anca Camen, Kelly McHugh

Herts v Surrey Surrey gave a w/o as could not get a team

Herts v Kent Herts won 8-2

Players were Kate Gowar, Louise Herbert, Pippa Parkes and Anca Camen

Essex v Herts Herts gave a w/o as could not get a team

Pippa Parkes, Captain

Seniors Tennis

Over 50s

Herts Women's 50s team had an excellent season, winning all their matches and finishing top of Division 1 Group A. Team members were Miranda Hosking (captain), Bridie Amos, Kirstie Caneparo, Olga Blecher, Pippa Parkes, Rebecca Gates, Jenny Webster and Alison Felton. It was a fabulous team effort.

Pippa and Olga made their debuts playing for the 50s in the first match against a strong Surrey team. Pippa and Miranda and Bridie and Olga played some closely contested matches but both pairs came away with a clean slate with Herts winning 4 rubbers to 0. Kent unfortunately gave Herts a walkover the day before the match was due to be played which was a shame as we were raring to go – a rather too easy win!

The match against Essex was slightly less straightforward. Rebecca and Jenny made their 50s debuts in this match and, with their respective partners, Miranda and Kirstie, took Herts into a 2-0 lead in the first round but, unfortunately, Rebecca injured herself in the first rubber and had to pull out of the second rubber shortly after it started. That put all the onus on Kirstie and Jenny to try to win the match for us. It was an exciting game with Kirstie and Jenny finally pulling through in a very close (and long/nail-biting!) 10 point tie break.

Our last two matches were at home at Gosling. The first was against Sussex and was the only match we played featuring singles. In the first round, Jenny at number 2 won her singles, Kirstie at number 1 narrowly lost out on a 10 Point tie-break and Bridie and Miranda won their doubles. Kirstie and Jenny then teamed up to win their doubles with Bridie and Miranda also winning in the second round, giving Herts a 4-1 victory.

The last match was against Middlesex and it was back to doubles again. The team of Kirstie and Pippa and Bridie and Alison stormed through the first round to take a 2-0 lead. Both matches in the second round were close, but Herts came through in both, securing another 4-0 win.

Miranda Hosking

Over 55s

With one match left to play, the Over 55 ladies' team have had a thoroughly enjoyable summer with lots of great tennis, fun and laughter. The squad: Jane Walker, Hazel Lupton, Emma Wilson, Patricia Watson-Miller, Wendy Job, Sue Buckman and Claire Booth.

We began with a home win over Essex on the grass at West Herts & Watford with a magnificent 4-0 win just playing doubles as the opposition couldn't find any singles players. Our team of Emma/Hazel won 6-1, 7-5 and 6-4, 6-1 and Jane/Patricia won 6-3, 6-1 and 6-2, 6-4.

Our second match vs Surrey was on a glorious day in early September at West Side LTC, Wimbledon. Our team had a less successful day which we are putting down to not being able to see the lines and a very strong opposition (0-5) but we still enjoyed the day. Emma 5-7, 1-6; Jane 0-6, 1-6; Emma/Jane 2-6, 4-6; Wendy/ Claire 2-6, 6-7; and 2-6, 6-2, 0-1.

Our 3rd match was rearranged from a very wet summer's day to a glorious late September day with a match on the grass courts at Ealing where we beat Middlesex with some very close matches; Hazel 6-2, 4-6, 0-1; Patricia 6-4, 6-3; Hazel/Patricia 6-1, 6-2; Jane/Sue 6-3, 4-6, 0-1; and 6-4, 6-2, so an overall win of 3-2.

We have yet to play our final match at the end of October vs Essex.

Finally, thank you to all my team who have been supportive, energetic, fun and happy and a pleasure to Captain.

Jane Walker

Over 60s

We played four very enjoyable matches v Bucks, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Lincolnshire with one rearranged fixture left to play. Generally, we had excellent outdoor tennis and friendly opposition only losing one match – narrowly to Norfolk. A memorably long but fun drive to Lincs to play for hours on hard courts. We much appreciate use of good courts and facilities at Radlett and the support from the fabulous squad... Claire Booth (Captain), Judith Allnutt, Joy Allsopp, Wendy Cottenden, Annie Hems, Wendy Randall, Margaret Shahmir, Jane Walker and Alison Williams.

Claire Booth

Over 65s

So somehow I find myself reporting on the Ladies 65s county team – it was the 50s not so long ago! I'm pleased to say our friendships over the years and great team spirit helped us to win all 4 of our matches, playing away to Buckinghamshire and Warwickshire and home to Gloucestershire and Shropshire.

Of course, we had a few small injuries to manage along the way, so many thanks to Marion who stepped in for the last 2 matches and Joy and Tricia should be commended for playing in all 4 matches. Hopefully we'll be able to continue our winning streak into next season when we will be back to playing in competitive leagues.

The team are Alison Allard, Joy Allsopp, Marion Barnard, Sue Birchall, Gill Dickey and Tricia Rayner

Alison Allard

Over 70s

We had many injuries amongst our squad but with a reasonable number of willing players (8) we managed to complete all of them winning 2 and losing 2

Lorraine Oliver and I played together in two matches with some success and Margi DeFriez proved to be the star player teaming up with Chris Robinson in three matches.

We took 5 players to all the matches save one which meant that the recovering injured could rest!

Pam Burrage, Pauline Isaacs, Patricia Rayner and Janet Morgan also had games.

Hopefully next year will be easier to organise!

Debbie Walker, Captain



Ladies 70s County Seniors

Men's County Seniors 2021

Because of Covid, changes were made to the groups to minimise travelling and all matches were friendlies, as there was to be no promotion or relegation at the end of the season. Covid restrictions meant that fixtures could not be played until mid July, so matches were arranged in the remaining time. This partially contributed to a number of fixtures being cancelled as teams could not be raised, owing to congestion of matches and players having other priorities.

The 45s team has yet to play a match as two opponents have conceded and the two remaining matches are still to be played. The players are however keen to play the matches and the team has been boosted by two players joining from other counties.

The 50s team is also affected with only one match played against Hampshire and two matches yet to be played.

The situation with the 55s team is even worse as two counties conceded to us and in the three other matches we conceded, as teams could not be raised on the dates when fixtures had been agreed.

The 60s have played two matches losing to Sussex but winning

against Essex. The remaining three matches were all conceded as we were not able to raise a team.

The 65s team has played and won three matches against Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Norfolk. Nottinghamshire withdrew and we did not travel away to Lincolnshire. The players were Neagle Cathcart, Martin Corrie, Bob Sneesby, and Doug Lavis.

The 70s team played and won two matches against Lincolnshire and Norfolk. The other matches were conceded to us, meaning Herts won their group. Malcolm Fraser and Peter Harding were unbeaten in both matches.

The 75s team was also group winners, beating Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and Bedfordshire withdrew. The team comprised Peter Morton, Barry Skelding, Rex Poulter and Malcolm Fraser all of whom contributed to winning the matches.

Thanks are due to Steve Jones, David Reed, Martin Corrie and Tom Parsons for captaining the various teams. It is regrettable that captains could not be found in the 55's and 60's teams as there are many good players eligible to represent the county. Unless captains can be found, these teams will not be able to run next season.

Malcolm Fraser, Men's Seniors Coordinator

Men's 35s

The men's 35s team this year was Neil Roskilly, Neil Bamford, James Thomas, Nick Lester and Hamid Hejazi

The weekend got off to a disastrous start with our strongest player Bamford getting injured and being unable to walk for the rest of the event. We did still manage to beat Suffolk on the first day but without our star man things were always going to be difficult for the rest of the weekend.

Day two we lost both singles rubbers to go 2-0 down to a strong Middlesex team. This was not good however we had a secret weapon. Nick Lester!!! Nick arrived only for one day and played amazingly. We won the first doubles and felt we were still in the match. Do we play Neil Bamford on one leg or don't we??? We decided that just standing on the court he would still intimidate our opponents more than any of our healthy players could. He and Roskilly played so well and gave us a chance to win the match. Nick Lester carried me (Hejazi) over the line with another fantastic performance and we won the match 3-2.

Going into the last day we were strong favourites to beat Devon and indeed we did, 4-1 to secure promotion back into division 1.

Next year we are hoping to get the biggest of the big guns out and contend for the title.

Hamid Hejazi



Herts Men's 35s Team

Herts Schools 2021

Our aim is to encourage tennis in schools by offering a range of competitive opportunities to players of all ages and abilities. Our competitions are doubles, round robin and structured by age and experience so everyone enjoys them.

In a normal year we run competitions for Primary Schools players in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. For Secondary Schools we run a programme that wraps around the LTA Youth Schools Structure. So we offer a Year 7 competition, Leagues for less experienced players in Years 8, 9 and 10, and a County Schools Championship for experienced players U14 and U18.

However this is 2021! Schools have struggled with distance learning, student bubbles, sharing equipment and the constantly changing regulations. For most schools the

problems of transport to matches, use of changing rooms and general pressure of work has made inter-school competitive tennis impossible. Many schools ran internal competitions, some adopting our Nicola Mabbit format. So none of our regular competitions happened in 2021.

Queenswood School deserves special mention for completing their National Schools Championship matches and sending two teams to the National Finals. Unfortunately covid then intervened and providing two complete teams proved challenging.

We are looking forward to 2022, when we hope to restore our regular programme of events.

Pam Burrage

Herts Schools Tennis Programme 2022

Age	Date	Venue	Time	Organiser
Year 3 Red	June 9th	Welwyn LTC	1.30-3.30pm	Mark Howard
Year 3 Red	TBC	Haileybury	1.00-3.00pm	
Year 3 Red FINAL	June 30th	Welwyn LTC	1.30pm	Mark Howard
Year 4 Orange	1th June	St Albans LTC	1.00-3.30pm	Karen & Pam B
Year 5 Green	4th July	Cassiobury LTC	1.00-3.30pm	Angie
Year 6 Yellow Ball	Tues 7th June	Royal Masonic	3.00-5.00pm	Elizabeth & Penny
Queenswood Prep Festival	Wed 4th May	Queenswood	1.30-4.00pm 4.00pm	Catherine
Year 7 Boys	Wed 22nd June	Haberdashers Boys	4.15-6.30pm	Andy Lee
Year 7 Girls	TBC	Royal Masonic	4.00-6.30pm	Elizabeth
County Doubles: U 18 and U14				
Girls	Wed 4th May	Haberdashers Girls	11.30-4.00pm	Lauren & Pam B
Boys	Wed 27th April	Welwyn TC	1.00-4.00pm	Stuart
Nicola Mabbitt Yr 8 + Yr 9 + Yr 10 Finals	Mon 27th June	Queenswood	1.00-5.00pm	Pam B, Pam H Penny Angie Blowers
East Region	Wed 29th June	Queenswood	All day	Catherine
Team Tennis Schools Final				
Girls	Thurs 30th June	Queenswood	1.00pm	Catherine
Boys	Thurs 30th June		2.00pm	Hugo Allen

**Thanks to all the partners of
Herts Tennis.**