

Top stories in this bulletin.



County Week Success



2022 Awards Evening



More Herts clubs welcome Ukrainian refugees



Broxbourne opens its new Padel courts



Welcome to the 2nd edition of *The Herts Bulletin*.

The Bulletin was born out of a desire to improve our communications with you, our members. A lot of our members make up the army of volunteers who bring tennis, padel...and pickleball (as I

found out at Hoddesdon recently!)...to life at our venues and it would be very much appreciated if those of you who receive the *Bulletin* directly could forward it on to as many volunteers as possible at yours. The wider the audience the better!

I'm glad I just mentioned volunteers because this month we all have an opportunity to do something special by nominating someone who deserves recognition for an LTA Tennis Award. There are lots of different categories, including Volunteer of the Year, Rising Star and Club of the Year so why not have a think, then click on the link [LTA Tennis Awards](#) Go on.....make someone's day!

I would be exaggerating if I said we'd been snowed under with feedback on *The Bulletin's* first edition! Hopefully that means that it was well received, but just a reminder, please do let us know what you think or better still, what would like to see in any future editions. You can let us know at hertstennis@gmail.com

There have been many highlights for me since the first *Bulletin* hit the streets in May and although the Editor in Chief won't allow me space to list them all, I'm going to sneak in a few.

I was lucky enough to be invited by Berkhamsted and Hoddesdon to celebrate their centenaries (actually, both have hit the amazing heights of 125 years!) and by Broxbourne for the opening of their fantastic new padel courts. I've enjoyed tea and biccies at St Albans while watching their Ladies team clinch the Herts League and I had a wonderful week at Rickmansworth, who once again hosted our annual County Championships so beautifully in late August. Oh and our County Safeguarding Officer, Tessa Terry and I were treated to a night of...well...pretty much everything at Elliswick in July, when we joined the Ukrainian refugee children who were being offered free coaching by the club and their carers in an evening of fun and games. Oh and apparently that was just a normal Friday evening!

Thanks to everybody for the invitations and warm welcomes we've received so far and please keep them coming!

Dates for your diary:

Sunday 9th October from noon – Tasty food and an open bar will accompany fantastic tennis as the Men's and Ladies Harris Cup competitions culminate in a Finals Day at Berkhamsted LTC. Everybody welcome and definitely the more the merrier!

Thursday 8th December at 8pm – This year's Herts LTA AGM, venue TBC. Please come along to hear from the current Management Committee and have your say on important issues, including our constitution.

And with that, let me leave you to enjoy the rest of the Bulletin.

Lee Evans

President

Honesty – Excellence – Resilience – Teamwork – Sportsmanship

Broxbourne opens Padel courts



Broxbourne Sports Club (BSC) celebrated the opening of 2 new padel courts over a hot and steamy weekend in July. The addition of the padel courts is thanks to a partnership agreement with Game 4 Padel (G4P), one of the leading investors and operators of padel facilities in the UK. Two experienced G4P coaches delivered

introductory sessions to nearly a hundred people over the weekend and entertained the large crowd with an exhibition match involving two of Broxbourne's own padel enthusiasts.

The club says it is delighted with the take up of this new sport and that the courts are already busy. As expected, demand is coming from its tennis and squash players, but padel is also attracting hockey members, cricketers and parents of juniors as well as significant numbers who are completely new to the club. It appeals to a wide age range and there has been lots of interest from men, women and juniors. The club is delighted with the uptake in membership and is happy to say Broxbourne Padel Club is on the map! Whilst padel is a relatively easy sport to pick up, most people are keen to improve their technique and tactics with the help of the club's tennis coaches (at BTA Coaching). The courts are also available for non-members to play on and if anybody would like to come and give padel a try, they are very welcome. Full details about how to book a court can be found at www.broxbournesportsclub.com/padel

Calling all Coaches! A few diary dates and an opportunity

Herts coach events and coach ed courses running in the Autumn term include:

October 27th and November 4th – alternative dates for Coach Forum events at Batchwood, jointly run by the LTA, UCoach and the county. £25 for 4 hours, worth 4 automatic licence points. Book via the LTA Course search tool or the UCoach website: <https://ucoach.org.uk/workshops/>
Many other coach ed courses available on the UCoach website <https://ucoach.org.uk/>

Opportunity:

Herts LTA has created the Herts Tennis Foundation (HTF).

The HTF exists to welcome everyone who is not already a member of a club into the sport we love, especially those whose physical and mental health can be improved through holding a bat and hitting a ball.

We are creating opportunities in schools, colleges, parks, clubs and venues, in fact anywhere where people can play. Once we have created opportunities for them to play and introduced them to tennis we will link them to opportunities to play on the courts and in the programmes at our 75 venues in Herts.

We have listened to your feedback. Partnerships are in place. Funding has been secured. ***We now need coaches!***

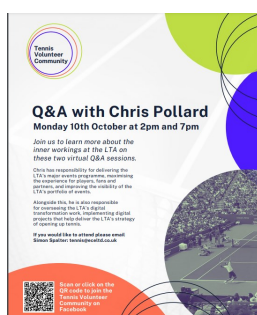
If you have a level 2,3,4 or 5 qualification and have an hour or more a week or month and would like to be paid to assist Herts LTA please give Phil a call (07708501839) or

Coming up:

Tennis Volunteer Group Q and A event with Chris Pollard, 10th October

The Tennis Volunteer Group are holding a Q and A event with Chris Pollard. Chris has responsibility for delivering the LTA's major events programme, including Wimbledon, maximising the experience for players, fans and partners. Alongside this he also oversees the LTA's digital transformation work and implementation of digital projects that help deliver the LTA's strategy of opening up tennis.

There will be two 1-hour sessions at 2pm and 7pm. If you would like to attend, please email Simon Spalter at tennis@eceltd.co.uk.



Awards Evening



We were delighted to invite the county stage winners of the 2022 LTA Tennis Awards, together with those who had been awarded our very own Herts Tennis Awards, to an evening at Harpenden Golf Club in May. It was our way of recognising some of Herts' hardest working clubs, players, coaches and volunteers for their amazing efforts and thanking them for having such a positive impact on tennis in the county this year.

It was wonderful to hear their incredible stories and to celebrate the achievements with the award winners and their guests.

LTA Tennis Awards 2022—County Stage Winners

Club of the Year: Elliswick LTC

Development Coach of the Year: Tom Dyball

Performance Coach of the Year: Jamie Evans

Competition of the Year: Sue McFayden

Disability Programme: Phil Martin

School of the Year: St Albans School

Official of the Year: Gal-on Broner

Volunteer of the Year: Jessie Hosking

Young Person of the Year: Ben

President's Award: Tessa Terry

Herts Tennis Awards and Presentations

Laing Award: Marelle

Mark Seymour Award: Freddie

County Colours: Indi Spink

County Colours: James Wilkinson

To see more, click the link to our webpage:

<https://hertstennis.co.uk/2022/07/22/herts-tennis-annual-awards-dinner-2022/>

Who do you know that deserves recognition? Nominations are now open for the 2023 Awards [LTA Tennis Awards](#) so this is your chance to make their day!

County Week Success



We are still celebrating in Hertfordshire after our Men's and Ladies' teams were crowned national champions at the Summer County Cup event on the lovely grass courts of Eastbourne's Devonshire Park in July. This is the third time Herts has claimed both Ladies' and Men's titles, having previously done the double in 2010 and 2012.

Our teams always enjoy plenty of travelling support at the County Cup, which is a week-long event held in mid to late July each year. Why not come along next year and be treated to a stunning week of tennis played by Britain's best doubles players?

Huge congratulations to our Men's and Ladies teams (below), with special mention to Amanda Elliott and Emily Arbuthnott for winning all 15 of their rubbers throughout the week. Well done ladies!

The Ladies team: Amanda Elliot (Captain), Emily Arbuthnott, Annabel Davis, Erin, Joanna Garland, Indi Spink, Marelle, Georgie Walker and Kat Whiteaway (Vice Captain)

The Men's team: Neil Bamford, Finn Bass, Charlie Broom, George Coupland, Lewis Evans, Daniel Martin, Neil Roskilly, Ryan Storrie, Oliver Tarvet and Captain Jeff Wayne.

Elliswick and Berkhamsted follow Welwyn in welcoming Ukrainian refugees



In the 1st edition of the *Bulletin* we told you about an exciting initiative Welwyn LTC had introduced for Ukrainian refugees who had settled in their area. Since then a number of other clubs have opened up similar initiatives to help improve the lives and opportunities of refugees in their area.

Our Club of the Year Elliswick LTC, has thrown open its courts to Ukrainian refugee children staying in Harpenden by offering free coaching during its Friday Junior Nights. President, Lee Evans and County Safeguarding Officer, Tessa Terry, visited the club in July and were overwhelmed by how much fun the children and their carers were having. The Elliswick coaches, led by Ben Wood, put the Ukrainian youngsters through their paces and then the visitors were entertained with magic, music and supper in the clubhouse. The club has also been offering free English lessons to the carers while their juniors are on court.

While at Berkhamsted LTC, the club is offering free temporary membership to refugees in the area and inviting refugee children to join in with their weekly Junior Club Nights.

It would be so good if lots of our other amazing Herts venues could follow the wonderful examples these clubs have set by offering similar support to Ukrainians who have settled in their area. If your venue would like to get involved, please do get in touch with us at hertstennis@gmail.com.

Safeguarding Update

The 2nd National Safeguarding Conference, held on 1st October, attracted hundreds of delegates from all over the country, fulfilling a wide range of safeguarding roles. If you are interested in accessing the slides from this event, please contact Tessa Terry, our County Safeguarding Officer.

LTA Venue Registration has just opened and you will all be aware that all Level 2+ Coaches are now required to be accredited. If you are in any doubt as to the safeguarding training and checks your staff and volunteers need, please refer to the LTA Safeguarding page: <https://lta.org.uk/about-us/safeguarding-protection>

Please remember that your Welfare Officer is required to deliver Safeguarding Training to all members of your Venue Management Committee on an annual basis. The LTA Training Video may be found on their Safeguarding Page by scrolling down to 'Templates and Policies' to find 'Safeguarding Training for Committees' and clicking on the link in the 1st paragraph.

The incoming Regional Safeguarding Officer, Melissa Miller, will now be resurrecting the Central and East Region Venue Visiting Programme. The online Self-Assessment Form has been updated and is a useful safeguarding risk assessment tool regardless of whether you are preparing for a visit: <https://lta.org.uk/about-us/safeguarding-protection/venue-safeguarding-standards>

We are planning to bring Welfare Officers and other key officers together at a dedicated County Venue Forum in the new year to share common issues and concerns. If there is anything you would like to include on this agenda, please let Tessa or Carole know.

You may find further helpful general advice and guidance on our Herts Tennis website by accessing the Safeguarding Page <https://hertstennis.co.uk/safeguarding> and are always welcome to email Tessa who will revert very quickly.

Carole Draper: hertstennis@gmail.com
Tessa Terry: csohertfordshire@gmail.com

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 03001234043 or Adult Services on 0300 123 4042 or the NSPCC on 0800 500 5000.

Help with competition at your venue

Competition tools for your venue

The LTA is providing a number of free tools which your coaches and other competition organisers may find useful:

3 different tools are on offer for venues, which make it possible to submit the results of matches that have taken place; both friendly and more formal matches can be submitted

	The most versatile of the tools, RM can be used to submit any friendly informal matches, such as sets played during club nights, during the coaching programme or from ladders.
	TP is mostly used to submit results from matches as part of a draw, such as a typical club championships.
	BLM has been built to support the running of internal club box leagues, allowing players to enter box leagues themselves and submit their own scores after each match.

Why submit results from matches at your venue?

Submitting results helps players to track their progress and adds an extra layer of value to their experience at your venue.

You can submit results as little or as often as you like and your LTA Regional Team are on hand to assist with developing a competitive programme that is appropriate for your venue and takes into consideration the administration time that you have available.

Also, submitted results are used to affect each player's <https://www.lta.org.uk/compete/wtn-rankings/world-tennis-number/>

, a new international measure of gauging the competitive level of all players, whether they are regular tournament players, or recreational level players at a venue.

How can you access the Competition Tools?

The Competition Tools are available to anyone in an official role at a venue, as well as Accredited Coaches and Licenced Officials.

More details on each tool, handy user guides, and registering to receive access to them on your LTA profile can be found [HERE](#)



Resources for 2023 Now Available!

What is LTA Youth Team Challenge?

A fun competition designed for junior tennis players. Kids compete in small teams for points over a short series of matches. Each event might last 1-3 hours and we provide resources to support the running of your competition, including promotional materials and certificates, stickers, medals and prizes to hand out to multiple winners on the day. The resource packs have seasonal themes but it's up to the Organiser to decide when would be best to run the events at the venue.

Why should you run LTA Youth Team Challenge events?

This is a great format to get kids interested and engaged in competition and our research shows that access to appropriate competition helps to keep kids in tennis and therefore, in your venues and programmes. By playing in teams and using flexible scoring formats such as timed tennis, there's less emphasis on individual results and quick-fire matches are more enjoyable for inexperienced competitors. For Organisers, the flexible, shorter scoring formats also allow for more players competing and this helps to ensure financial viability. And finally, all the excellent resources are provided FREE of charge, including postage!

How do you access LTA Youth Team Challenge?

Registration for all 2023 resources is open NOW, until the 30th November 2022. You'll find a quick and easy sign-up form [HERE](#) and more information about the products and the additional downloadable resources can be found on the [LTA Youth Team Challenge page](#) of the LTA website.