



BULLETIN – WINTER 07/08

February 2008

In this issue:

Club News and Committee Report
Tennis Activities
Match and Team Update
Junior Tennis
Coaching
Social Events

Note from the Chairman

Hi everyone! I hope that this first bulletin finds you well and having had a good start to the year.

The committee and I are committed to improving our communication with you, the members, and keeping you abreast of what's going on, both in and around the club and behind the scenes, and this new quarterly bulletin is part of that initiative.

It's been an interesting first year as Club Chairman, but I'm pleased to report that I've got a great team on the committee and that all is going well. We've all been working hard behind the scenes to ensure that Westside continues to thrive and that the services and facilities we provide to members continue to improve.

That's all from me for now, but please do come and chat to me at any time about the club. I'm always keen to hear members' views and ideas.

Best wishes,

Kyle



CLUB NEWS AND COMMITTEE REPORT

Since the highly praised clubhouse refurbishment in December 2006 the Club has continued to move forward. This report is a brief update about what has been happening over the past few months, both in and around the club and behind the scenes.

The primary focus of the Committee over the past year has been to conduct an operational review with the aim of improving the running of the Club and service to the members, and ensuring that the organisational infrastructure is developed to sustain the level of growth the club has seen over recent years and the volume of usage as the club continues to thrive and grow.

This review has been extensive and is ongoing and has included improved cash management and banking policies, improved financial budgeting, reviewing and revising our health and safety and HR policies, continuing to review the club's organisational structure and assessing the merits of CASC and/or incorporation. We're also keen to hear members' views and feedback and have implemented some new means of receiving member feedback, by way of a comments box now in the Club house and a feedback form that will soon be placed on the website. So please let us know your views!

We're also pleased to announce that Bruce Shepherd, a long-standing member of the Club, has been appointed Club Treasurer.

Here's a quick summary of some of the other improvements made this year:

- Courts 1 – 4 were re-surfaced in August/September and the fencing replaced.

- The club website has also now been completely re-designed with new content as a further means of keeping you updated about what's going on at the club.
- The Westside Cafe opening hours have been extended. The Cafe is now open between 3.30pm and 6pm on weekdays during school term, selling teas, coffees, pizzas and other hot and cold snacks.
- A new gate has been installed by the car park keep young children from being able to run out into areas where there are cars.
- The fencing has been replaced on courts 5 & 6 and the drainage is being improved by the club car park/entrance to try and eliminate the large puddle that forms during heavy rain.
- A new water pump had been installed to improve the water pressure throughout the club, especially in the showers.

As you can see it's been a busy and productive year and we hope to carry this forward into 2008. Here's a preview of just some of the things planned for 2008 – assuming that the committee is re-elected.

- Re-surfacing of courts 5 & 6 and 7 to 9, and the first stage of replacing the fencing around courts 7 to 9.
- A new bike shed by the club entrance.
- Improved catering and food choices.
- Re-painting and repairing the exterior of the clubhouse.

The committee welcomes any feedback from members on these plans and any further suggestions. We'll be sharing more about the vision for the club's future at the upcoming AGM on 6th March 2008 at the clubhouse and hope to see you there.

TENNIS ACTIVITIES

Social Tennis

Saturday and Sunday afternoon social tennis sessions continue to be well-attended. The sessions continue throughout the winter from 2 - 6pm every weekend, rain or shine!

Don't forget that social tennis is also alive and well on Thursday evenings from 7pm – 9.30pm. To help you keep warm over the winter, this will be followed once a month by drinks and food. The next event will be on Thursday 28 February 2008 – tennis at 7pm, drinks and food from 9pm. It would be helpful to have numbers in advance, but please do just turn up on the night!

Take a look at the website for full details of all the club's organised social tennis sessions:

www.westsideltc.org.uk/socialtennis.php

Tennis groups

Organised practices are available for all standards of players during the week – see the website for details.

MEN'S PRACTICES

Monday nights – match practice for the top 7 men's teams. For details, please contact Keith Harrison 020 8949 4828, or Jo Kirby 07813 331819.

Wednesday "Drysko" nights for 8th and 9th team/upper social standard players. If you are interested, please contact Peter Saag or Jo Kirby.

LADIES' PRACTICES

Tuesday nights (7.30 – 9pm) and Saturday lunchtime (1pm) – match practice for 2nd – 5th team players. If you are interested, please contact Sarah Hannaford.

INTERESTED IN PLAYING FOR THE TEAMS?

If you have not yet played for a team at Westside, but are interested in doing so, you are invited to a play-in for the ladies' teams on. For details, please contact Sarah Hannaford.

MATCH AND TEAM UPDATE

It has been another great summer for Westside on the competitive front with our teams performing well and maintaining their positions at the upper end of the Surrey leagues. There have also been excellent performances at the individual level too...

Alison victorious!



The Surrey individual events take place twice a year and, since she first qualified for the "39 & over" in the winter of 2004/5, Alison Taylor has been unstoppable. She has now won the title six times which is a fantastic achievement. Alison has also been awarded her County colours and been appointed captain of the "39 & over" County team

Success also for Marek Karas in the open Surrey Singles final back in July when he overcame a strong challenge by Casey Lyonette of Esporta to win 6-3 7-6. There was an unusual incident in the tie break when Marek overhit a shot but the ball struck Casey's foot so Marek won the point!



There was further success for Westside at the county summer finals when Tony Marshall and Tony Tsoukkas won the "44 & over" Men's Doubles in a hard fought three setter.

It's also been a great summer for our ladies' teams. Not only are we Premier league champions once again but our midweek ladies 1st team have completed the double by winning the Daytime leagues.

Last but not least, we completed a clean sweep in the women's knock-out competitions with our 1st team winning Grade A, our 5th team winning Grade B and our veterans (the 39 & overs!) beating all comers in that category as well.

JUNIOR TENNIS

Junior Club Afternoon runs every Friday, speak to Alison for further details.

As an accredited Mini Tennis and Performance Satellite Club Westside is committed to providing all our junior members with an opportunity to play matches, for all ages and level of ability.

Intra Club weekly tournaments – These tournaments are designed for children playing red, orange and green mini tennis with limited tournament experience. These tournaments give children an opportunity to compete against players of similar age and standard in a fun and familiar environment.

Upcoming Schedule

Sat, 1 st March 2008	3.00 – 5.30 pm	Orange Mini Tennis for children aged 8 & 9
Sat, 8 th March 2008	12.00 – 2.30pm	Green Mini Tennis for children aged 10
Sat, 15 th March 2008	12.00 – 2.30 pm	12 & Under

A schedule of LTA grade 5 & 6 competitions held at Westside will be posted on the notice board, these tournaments will target players who play competitive tennis on a regular basis.

Our annual Grade 3 **Westside Junior Classic Tournament** will be held on 14th -19th April.

Our **Little League Teams** 10 & under and 11 & under will begin competing against local clubs in January. Details will be posted on the notice board and website.



Girls Doubles Competition – This inter club competition is open to girls born between 1992-94 with limited tournament experience or a LTA rating of 10.2/10.1. We will field 2 teams who will compete against local clubs between January and Easter. If you are interested please contact Alison at the club.

Junior Achievements

Orange Level Players

Miho Yazama – Winner of 3 Orange Mini Tennis Tournaments
Stella Schieble – Runner Up in Westside Orange Tennis Festival

Green Level Players

Gabriella Webb - Winner of Surrey U10 Little League for Westside with Polly Nash. Surrey Green Mini Tennis Champion
Polly Nash - Winner of Surrey U10 Little League for Westside with Gabby Webb
Niall Solomon - Winner of 3 Green Mini Tennis Tournaments.
Tom Kershaw - Runner Up in Westside LTA Green Mini Tennis Tournament

12 & Under

Chloe Halliday – Winner of Surbiton Trophy, ranked 11 in GB Girls 12& Under, Winner of Surrey Postal Girls 12 & Under, Winner of the Jean Thirwall Trophy for Endeavour, County Cup player
Katherine Nash – Winner of 12& Under Carshalton Tournament
Sophie Moss – Finalist of 12 & Under Carshalton Tournament
Inigo Slijepcevic – Finalist in Scott Hampton 12& Under Tournament
Gabby Webb – Winner 12& Under Junior Winter Tour Tournament, Winner Ariel Winter Series Tournament 11& Under

14& Under

Ruth Seaborne- Member of 14 & 18 under County Cup Team. Placed 3rd in the Daily Telegraph Grand Prix Tournament in La Manga, Spain. Ranked No 12 in GB in 14 & under.

Michaela Knespl – Finalist in Consolation of the 14 & Under Road to Wimbledon Championships, Winner of Surrey Postal Girls 14 & Under, County Cup player

Charlotte Moss- Winner 14 & Under Carshalton Junior Tournament, Surrey 14 & Under Junior Tour Champion

16& Under

Christa Gecheva - placed 4th in the Daily Telegraph Grand Prix Tournament in La Manga, Spain, Finalist in Leverstock 16 & under tournament. Winter County Cup player & 18 & Under County Team, Yonex Player of the year award

Charlotte Nutting - Winner Girls 16 & 18 under Carshalton Junior Tournament

Congratulations to all Westside Players!

COACHING

Coaching Report

Westside offers a wide range of coaching services from 3 year olds to Adults. Group and private lessons are available to all ages and standards.

Adult Group Coaching

Improvers Groups:

Monday 9.30 -11.00 with Chris, turn up and play £7 per session. Saturday 2.00-3.00 with Marek, turn up and play £5 per session with organised doubles following lesson

Intermediate Group: Tuesday 9.30 -11.00am with Alison, turn up and play £7 per session.

Ladies Team Practice & Coaching with Andy: Tuesday 7.30- 9.00pm, book your place with Sarah Hannaford.

Ladies Drills and Doubles Tactics: Intermediate Group with Andy Saturday 12.00 -1.00
Turn up and play £5 per session

Private lessons and groups can be booked at your convenience. Telephone 020 8947 8796

Coming Soon...

Cardio Tennis – The heart rate monitors and music have arrived and we will start our cardio sessions in March. Cardio Tennis is a new fun group activity featuring drills to give players of all abilities a high energy workout. It's a great new way to get in shape and burn calories. Check the notice board for more details.

New Video Coaching Service- Book a lesson using our new pro compare software which allows you to view up to 50 images a second enabling accurate analysis of all your strokes. View your shots in freeze frame slow motion alongside images of the pros such as Henin and Federer.

Junior Coaching

The Spring Term Group lessons began on Monday January 7th. Group and private lessons are available every day after school. Westside is an accredited Mini Tennis and Performance Satellite Club. Application forms are available at the club or can be downloaded from our web site.

SOCIAL EVENTS

The recent Christmas party was a resounding success and has been hailed as 'the best in years' by many attendees. The tickets were fully sold out by the end of November (also a first in years) and many came later in the evening to dance the night away at the disco.

Forthcoming events:

Social Tennis - Supper Club

Thursday, 28th Feb 2008 at 7pm

On the last Thursday of each month we hold a 'Supper Club' evening. Come along and join in with the evening Social Tennis session from 7pm to 9pm and then stay for a supper. You'll be asked what you want to eat on arrival from the take-away menu of choice - some months it's curry, others it's pizza or chinese. Then when you've finished playing the food will be ready and you can sit down and enjoy a hot supper and a drink or two.

Team Players Pre- Season Party

Friday, 18th April 2008 from 8pm

This event is for the men's and ladies team players to get the season off to a flying starting. The fun and games will begin at the clubhouse at 8pm and then migrate into town later in the evening for a full on Westside party night!

Well, that's all for this issue. Keep an eye on the website for full details of what's going on in and around the club and we'll be back with the next instalment of the bulletin in the spring.

Best wishes,

The Westside LTC Committee