



Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 4 May 1996

Editorial

The end of the winter playing season heralds the start of the summer one for many Members; barbecue, tennis, golf (remember last year?), but for many their main chance to shine - the Summer Mini-Team Leagues! These members slog away on the superheated courts, just for the opportunity to be terminally criticised by the speaker at the Presentation Dinner.

Elsewhere, the Social & Playing Sub Committee (now renamed *Programming Sub* in modern parlance) are working hard to ensure a busy programme over the summer period. A full list of events is shown at the end of this Newsletter, but please watch the notice boards and pick up 'flyers' indicating changes to the schedule.

As the time for the subscription renewal draws near, the Board and Management would like to take this opportunity to tell you about our plans for the balance of this year, and remind you of the top class facilities offered by the Edinburgh Sports Club.

Lottery Fund Application.

We're sure you would all rather take advantage of any offers going, so we've decided to set in motion an application for Lottery funding for both current proposed change phases (front of house and men's changing room - see plans in the Bar), and also including the possibility of a multi purpose room and creche.

This regrettably means the postponement of the front of house upgrade, but we're sure you'll agree it's worth the wait. In the meantime, other minor upgrades are being effected, including improvement to the men's changing room ventilation (high priority in last year's questionnaire), and a kitchen upgrade described elsewhere.

You'll be kept informed at all stages, but we aim to ensure that we achieve the best facilities for Club Members, along with the implementation of a sports and fitness improvement policy which is an essential part of the granting of Lottery Funds.

STOP PRESS

1996 - 1997 Subscriptions

The Board are pleased to announce that there will be no increase in subscriptions this year. This is due to a combination of a number of factors - a high level of new Members, (from 1st July 1995 until 14th May 1996, 156 new people joined). We all hope this trend will continue, but current members can help here, by introducing a friend or colleague, with the incentive of **NO ENTRY FEE**. This will commence on 1st July 1996, for a limited period only. Other reasons include - careful control of expenditure and the need to moderate members costs at a time when inflation is particularly low.

Over 65's can now get membership at half price, in both full and social categories. Please ask for details from the office if you qualify.

Membership Levels.

For the first time since the 1980's, total membership has risen to over 1000. This recalls halcyon days when all UK squash clubs had a waiting list, but the current trend in this Club indicates that squash and other racket sports are retaining their interest, and fitness may be holding its own against competition from the television and other attractions.

Refurbishments

A good proportion of your subscriptions are used to maintain the fabric of the Club. The courts are repaired, cleaned and repainted annually, the Bar and Restaurant are on a regular upgrade path; the following areas are receiving attention at the moment:-

Kitchen The kitchen is having an extensive upgrade with the replacement of wooden structures by the preferred stainless steel options - tables, sinks, shelving, splashbacks and ventilation ducts all being replaced. The ventilation is also being improved by the installation of larger fans and decoration is being undertaken. The work should be completed by the 22nd of May. This largely unseen improvement will help Pat and her staff to continue their high catering standards.

Tennis Courts The first full service for a couple of years has just been completed. We trust this will improve the playing conditions for all standards of player.

Fitness Suite Dumbbells on a stand are now available, and the long awaited improvements to ventilation are promised for the near future.

Car Park The entrance to the car park by the bridge is again in need of repair. If members would kindly abide by the speed limits, the surface would not deteriorate so quickly! New parking permits will be issued to members as they renew their subscriptions

Sunbed A new sunbed has been acquired on a profit sharing basis at no cost to the Club. It is much more efficient than the old one, only taking fourteen minutes a session to get a tan going. The application of the pre-tanning cream on sale from the shop does make a significant difference and helps to speed up the tanning process.

Lounge All the chairs in the lounge (along with the Bar stools) have been re-covered.

SPONSORS

The following have kindly provided sponsorship during the year:-

Baillie Gifford....Club Open Squash Tournament

Rod GoodsonThe Newsletter

Charlie Fyfe....The Newsletter

Michael CampbellMasters Quaich

Michael D H Hughes Trevor Mitchell/BUPA....The Newsletter

Mills/Multon....The Scottish League Team

Duncan Stewart....Ladies European Cup Team



Playing

The Club Squash Championships attracted a very substantial entry from the men and the now usual poor entry from the ladies. The grade winners were:- Open Men's: Brian Tait, A Grade: Paul Angus. B Grade: Mike Nelson C Grade: Gordon Fruish. Ladies Open: Irene Cowper. Veterans: PKN Wilson. The Racketball was as popular as ever, the Men's Doubles Champions were George Halliday & Dave Hickman, and the Mixed Champions were Julie McBirnie & Renwick Paterson. The Mini-League Player of the Year was Michael Stuart. The Championship Finals were held on the same day as a visit from Gala SRC which made for a bigger spectator gallery than usual. The Junior Championships had entries in almost each age group, and the champions were:- Boys u/12: Adam McHoul, u/14: Alan Angus, u/16: Paul Angus, u/19: Graeme Lind. Girls u/12: Jessica McDermott u/16: Kirsty Lind, u/19: Joanne Waine.

Junior International Cups were won by : Alan Angus & Richard Snowden.

The Masters Quaich, sponsored by Stafford Exports, attracted eight teams, and was won by ESC team comprising Tom Cain, John Done, Ray Stevenson & Irene Cowper.

The Lothian Over 35 Championships , both Ladies and Men's were won by E.S.C.

The Scottish Ladies Cup Final was again won by E.S.C beating Colinton Castle in the final. (Ray Lynch, Gillian Hogarth, Irene Cowper & Lisa McKenna)

Dave Hickman, John Done, Irene Cowper and the Wilson brothers Peter and Chris competed in the Age Group Home Internationals , and all performed admirably.

Special congratulations to Lisa McKenna on winning her first full international cap in the European Championships held recently in Amsterdam.

What do you get for your annual Subscription?

In case you had forgotten, never knew (or apologies if you know already) here's a list of what you get for your subscription as a full Member (for 83p per day).

- ☺ Squash, badminton, racketball, table tennis.
- ☺ Tennis.
- ☺ Fitness Suite. (Social Members pay a small fee)
- ☺ Snooker Room.
- ☺ Steam Room (ladies).
- ☺ Sauna (men).
- ☺ New Sunbed (Session fee payable.)
- ☺ Free newspapers 7 days a week.
- ☺ Free Parking.
- ☺ Restaurant facilities, no hire charge for functions.
- ☺ Cable TV.
- ☺ Coaching for squash/tennis at all levels.
- ☺ Extensive internal, regional and national squash leagues.
- ☺ Fitness Sessions and assessments.

PROGRAMME 1996 SUMMER/AUTUMN

- ☺ **MAY** Golf Tournament under way.
- ☺ Mini-Team Squash Leagues commenced.
- ☺ 26th- 11 a side Soccer
- ☺ 31st-Tennis Club Night
- ☺ **JUNE** 16th- Pimms American Tennis Tourney & Prince Tennis Play Day .
- ☺ 22nd Mini-Team Mid term BBQ & Quiz
- ☺ **JULY** 22nd -Tennis Club Night
- ☺ **AUGUST** Club Tennis Championships.
- ☺ Ladies pre-season Squash Coaching.
- ☺ Mini-Team Dinner Night 24th.
- ☺ **SEPTEMBER** 1st - Junior Squash Coaching Re-commences.
- ☺ 7th- 40-a-side versus Colinton Castle.
- ☺ 28th Race Night.

REGULAR EVENTS

- Ladies Fitness Morning Fridays 10.30a.m.
- Old Boys Fitness Class Wednesdays 11.00a.m.
- Circuit Training Class - See Notice Board.
- Fitness Inductions & Assessments - Tuesdays.
- Cardiactive Nine Week Course - See Notice Board for details
- Mini-Team Squash Leagues - Mondays & Tuesdays 29/4-24/6 & 1/7 - 12/8

Business Register

From time to time the Board needs the expert advice of certain professional and or service companies. It is proposed to start a register of Club Members who could offer advice in their particular field if the occasion arises. Please advise the Manager if you wish your name to be added to the list.

SPONSORSHIP ADVERT

This page could be working for your Company - a small investment will secure your name in this space which is circulated to all Members quarterly.