

Downpatrick Tennis Club

2019

www.downpatricktennisclub.co.uk

A message from the Captain

I would like to extend a warm welcome back to past members and am delighted to welcome any new members to Downpatrick Tennis Club. Now that the nights are on the turn, I am pleased to announce that our first American Tournament will be held on Sunday, 7th April and club play will commence on Monday, 8th April.

I would also like to take this opportunity to tell you how honored I am to be this year's club Captain, Genia Rea, is the club's Vice-Captain, and we both look forward to a successful and busy season.

This year we will be offering more match play / training for our junior members; During the Autumn we entered an U14 girl's team in a new "Autumn League" competition and the girls enjoyed all their matches and performed extremely well. It was pleasing to see that all our other junior teams, which took part in the B & D league, performed to a high standard.

I was delighted to see that last year's Wednesday night internal league had fantastic turnout and feedback with the result that it will continue this year.

In addition our winter tennis proved very popular and it's great to see our members having the opportunity to play tennis all year round.

I hope the weather treats us well and we all have a great few months of tennis at Downpatrick Tennis Club. Enjoy and continue reading for more information and dates for your diaries.

Kenneth Carson

Quiz Night: Friday, 8th February 2019

Our recent quiz was extremely well supported and a great success. Congratulations to the winning team made up of Murdock's, Morrison's & Whewell's. We hope you all enjoyed the evening and the chance to socialize off the courts!

Club Membership Fees

We are pleased to let you know that membership fees for 2019 remain at:

Adult	£50
Juniors (Year 8 – Year 14)	£20
Persons in full time education	£20
Juniors (P1 – P7)	£10

All members must send in an application form with their payment. Please keep us up-to-date with your current telephone, mobile and email address. Receipt of fees will be acknowledged by email. **Senior membership payments due by 31st March 2019 please; thank you.**

New for 2019: "Club Clothing/Kit"

A club shirt – long sleeved, navy with white trim & a ¼ zip is currently being sourced. As soon as we have sample sizes to try we will let you know. It is anticipated that they will cost approximately £25 / £30 each. We

hope that you will like the shirt and purchase one for your own use; we are keen to promote the club not only at home in Downpatrick but also when teams are travelling and playing elsewhere.

Opening American Tournament

Our opening tournament will be held on **Sunday, 7th April 2019 at 1-30 pm**. Registration will take place from 1-15 pm and the tournament is open to anyone over 13 years of age. This is a great opportunity to get together and we look forward to seeing you then.

Weekly Club Play / Internal League Matches

Monday evenings

Club play as before starting at 6-30 pm each evening; players will be chosen at random by picking numbers and play will rotate on a half-hourly basis.

Tuesday evenings

Junior Coaching (Primary school children)

Wednesday evenings

Following on from last year's success, we will continue with our Internal League matches consisting of men's, ladies and mixed doubles.

Confirmation of the weekly matches will be sent, by WhatsApp, each Tuesday for the order of play on Wednesday evenings. Please email your interest, what league you would like to play in and your weekly availability to the club email **by Tuesday, 9th April**. Matches will commence on **Wednesday, 17th April**. Players will be given partners and matches will last for an hour.

We would love to have as many members playing as possible in this league and would encourage everyone - aged 13 and over - of any ability, to sign up and get playing!

Friday evenings

May & June - B & D Evergreen matches

Saturday mornings

Junior coaching (Secondary school children)

Sunday Tournaments

Registration is at 1-15 pm prompt for a 1-30 pm start to ensure that the tournament starts on time and finishes at a reasonable hour. The format is mixed doubles, with a draw for partners; it's a great way to get to know fellow club members and is open to anyone aged 13 and over. If we run a Round Robin Tournament as opposed to an American Tournament, we will ask participants to register in advance to allow the competition to be organised efficiently. For details of dates and times of all club run events please see the *Calendar of Events 2019*.

A small donation of two pounds will be collected at registration; this will be donated to a charity of the Captain's choice.

Please note that the arrangements for the B & D League matches i.e. Mixed and Summer are not yet available and there may be evenings when some / all of the courts will be needed. We will let you know in good time if the courts are unavailable for club or internal league matches.

On any other occasion when the courts are free, members may make arrangements to play amongst themselves. Keys can be collected from and must be returned to McCartan's Sports Shop.

Help with Club Opening and Events

Every offer of help with club opening and other events is very much appreciated. If you are able to assist in any way, please let us know (a rota will be available on **Sunday, 7th April**). Keys for the gates and pavilion may be collected from and returned to McCartan's Sports Shop. Very many thanks!

Adult Coaching

Arrangements for any adult coaching will be advised in due course.

Club Competitions – Handicap, Open & Junior

Handicap Tournament

First round matches to be played over the weekend of the 27th & 28th April 2019. All subsequent rounds and the final to be played by 31st August 2019.

Club Open / Junior Open Competitions

Entries will be taken and the draw for the first round matches will be made prior to Saturday, 18th May 2019. All rounds and plate matches must be played by 31st August 2019.

All members are encouraged to take part in these club competitions as they provide a great opportunity to meet and play with new and old friends in the club. Entry forms, with rules and regulations, will be sent out prior to each competition.

Belfast & District Leagues

The Belfast & District League body organizes competition at various levels and offers challenging tennis to players of all abilities. The club believes that league tennis makes a unique contribution to the club, both at team and individual level.

At Downpatrick Tennis Club we strongly believe in being inclusive whenever possible and all adult members are invited early in the New Year to let us know of their interest in playing B & D league tennis during the season. To date this year we have been able to enter teams in the following leagues:

- Mixed League – 1 team
- Ladies Evergreen – 3 teams
- Men's Evergreen – 1 team

Interest for the Summer League will be ascertained in due course but we would hope to be able to enter 3 teams.

Last year we entered teams into the Floodlit league (division 2) with home matches being played at Newcastle Tennis Club. We are very grateful to Newcastle for the use of their facilities.

In the spring we had one mixed league team (division 4) and three Ladies Evergreen teams (one in division 1, one in division 2 and one in division 4). The Men's Evergreen team was promoted to Division 3 having won division 4 last year.

In the summer we had three mixed league teams (divisions 5, 6 & 8).

We also entered a team in each of the Men's and Ladies Intermediate Knockout Cups.

Congratulations to the Floodlit team for winning Division 2 and to the Ladies Intermediate Knockout Team which finished runner-up to Larne on a very wet Sunday morning in Bangor.

And to everyone else who took part and represented the club throughout the year.

Health & Safety

The safety of our members and visiting players is of great importance – before you play, please always ensure that the courts are safe to use.

Committee 2019

Honorary President:	Mrs Maud Perry	
Secretary:	Sara McMillen	ballydyan@btinternet.com
Chairperson:	Sam Murdock	
Captain:	Kenneth Carson	
Vice-Captain:	Genia Rea	
Treasurer:	Paul McCartan	tennistreasurer@gmail.com
Match Secretary:	Liz Jackson	
Junior Club:	Anna McCartan, Jayne Bassett, Kenneth Carson	
Committee:	Ann McLean, Catherine Curran, Genia Rea, Rosemary Porter, Marty Trainor, Allan Liddell & Martin Burke	
Children's Officers:	Dawn Stocking & Sam Murdock	

Club Prize Winners 2018

HANDICAP TOURNAMENT

Men's Doubles	Not Played
Ladies Doubles	Clare Magilton & Genia Rea
Mixed Doubles	Not Played

OPEN COMPETITION

Mixed Doubles (McCartan Sports Cup)	Brian & Olivia Mooney
Men's Doubles (Michael McClaren Cup)	John Neill & Dan Browne
Ladies Doubles (Bready Salver)	Evelyn & Olivia Mooney
Men's Singles (Brian & Evelyn Mooney Cup)	John Neill
Ladies Singles	Olivia Mooney

OPEN COMPETITION - PLATE COMPETITION

Men's Singles (Bassett Browne Plate)	To be played (Ian Wright / Martin Burke)
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Ladies Singles (M B McGrady)
Ladies Doubles (Morrison Salver)
Mixed Doubles

Not Played
Jayne Bassett & Alice Browne
Paul McCartan & Liz Jackson

Quoile Cup

Ann McLean

The Quoile Cup is a lovely silver cup returned back to the club from a family in England a little while ago. This was last presented in 1958 to Mrs B Johnston as the winner of the “Quoile – Downpatrick Lawn Tennis Club” ladies singles handicap. The cup was restored by Brian McLean and was awarded to the winner of a ladies tournament which was held on Sunday, 12th August.

Website & Communication

The information in this newsletter is available online at our website www.downpatricktennisclub.co.uk

There you will find information on all the Club’s policies, activities, coaching, tournaments and more.

We also have a club face book page so don’t forget to check this for up-to-date information and we can be followed on Twitter.

If you have any ideas to improve the site or for new sections or pages then please use the e-Mail link on the “Contact Us” page and we will respond.

Our Club adopts a ‘paper-free’ approach to communications whenever possible. This year we hope to be able to communicate with you entirely by email so please state your most frequently-used email address on the application form.

Circular emails will include information on the following – tournaments (entrance forms, dates & orders of play), social events & reminders about any changes to club play evenings.

JUNIOR CLUB NEWS

We look forward to seeing all our younger members again for the 2019 season and extend a warm welcome to all our new members. Children from the age of 5 years old may join the club and we welcome children of all abilities. Membership is open to the whole community.

Club Coaches

Coaching this year will be given by Kenneth Carson & Sumeet Kapur.

Club Fees

All children under the age of 13 years must participate in Junior Coaching sessions and we would ask that you arrive at least 5 minutes prior to the start of your allocated lesson start time.

Membership Rates

Primary School Children (P1 – P7)	£10
Secondary School Children (Year 8 – Year 14)	£20
Higher Education / University Students	£20

Coaching Rates

Primary School Children (P1 – P7)	£20
Secondary School Children (Year 8 – Year 14)	£20
Higher Education / University Students	£20

Coaching Dates

Primary School Children

Tuesdays (1 hour sessions) 6-30 pm – 7-30 pm & 7-30 pm – 8-30 pm
Starting Tuesday, 30th April – Tuesday, 25th June 2019 9 weeks
Coach: Kenneth Carson

We would ask the parents of the younger children to stay at courtside to supervise and attend to toileting requests. The club may call on volunteers to help on a given evening. The time commitment will be no longer than 1 hour on a Tuesday and 1 ½ hours on a Saturday. If you are interested in volunteering, please let a member of the Committee know. It is the responsibility of the junior member's parent/guardian to drop off and collect the junior member on time.

Secondary School Children

Saturdays (1 1/2 hour sessions) 10-00 am – 11-30 am & 11-30 am – 1-00 pm
Starting Saturday, 27th April – Saturday, 22nd June 2019 9 weeks
Coach: Sumeet Kapur

Spaces are limited on Saturdays and will be filled on a first come first served basis.

Additional Junior Club Play

We will be offering additional play for our junior members aged 10 and over on Wednesday afternoons from 5-00 pm – 6-15 pm as we would like to give our younger members further opportunities to play and put into practice match play skills. This will start on Wednesday, 1st May 2019.

Belfast & District (B&D) Juvenile League

In the Juvenile league, our U18 Girls team was promoted to division 1 having won division 2 last year and our U18 Boys team played in division 2. Both teams played extremely well against hard opposition and enjoyed the experience gained.

For the first time in many years we had an U14 Girls team playing in the Autumn League and we look forward to seeing these girls progress over the next few years.

Opening American Tournament

On Sunday, 07th April the Club will run its first American Tournament of the season and all juniors over 13 years are invited to enter. Turn up for registration at 1-15pm; there is a small entrance fee of £2 which is donated to charity. All members aged 13 years and over, are permitted to play in all the American tournaments, club championships and handicap tournaments. Any member over 13 years and taking coaching lessons is permitted to play at senior club play on Monday evenings. Details of the American Tournaments etc can be found on the Club website at www.downpatricktennisclub.co.uk

JUVENILE OPEN

BOYS SINGLES (Downe Veterinary Clinic)	Peter Murphy
BOYS DOUBLES CUP (Coffey Cup)	Rory Fay & Ruiari McMullen
GIRL'S SINGLES	To be played (Alice Browne & Tori Ferris)
GIRLS DOUBLES (Devlin Jackson Cup)	Alice Browne & Ciara Lynn
Junior Member of the Year (Wilson Cup)	Ciara Lynn

Junior Calendar of Events 2019

In the event of any changes we will email you directly

Tuesdays	30th April – 25th June 2019	Primary School Coaching
	2 x 1 hour sessions 9 weeks	6-30 pm – 7-30 pm (Age 5 – 8) 7-30 pm – 8-30 pm (Age 9 – 11) (depending upon numbers, age range may change)
Saturdays	27th April – 22nd June 2019	Secondary School Coaching
	2 x 1 1/2 hour sessions 9 weeks	10-00 am – 11-30 am 11-30 am – 1-00 pm
Wednesdays	<i>Commencing 1st May 2019</i>	Additional Junior Play for members aged 10 and over
		5-00 pm – 6-15 pm

Junior Club Championships

The draw for these will take place for Saturday, 18th May 2019. It will then be the responsibility of all parties to play their matches and all subsequent rounds up to and including the final by Wednesday, 31st August 2019.

Summer Camps

Monday, 22nd – Thursday, 25th July 2019

Further dates to be confirmed and will be circulated shortly.