

South Croydon Tennis Club



Welcome back old, welcome new members

Wimbledon may be over, but luckily we still have the SCTC Finals Day to look forward to. This year we are also having a BBQ on the day, so come along with your friends and family to support our finalists! As we are slightly behind our SW19 neighbours in putting up the roof on centre court, we can only hope that the sunny days will continue into next week. We are glad to see a number of new faces at the club, as

well as a reassuring number of familiar ones. Remember, you get £25 worth of drinks' voucher to spend at the bar if you introduce a new member, so start calling your friends and the voucher may just come in handy for those Sunshine drinks on Finals Day on our very own Murray Mound.

We hope you all like the new look Newsletter!

Quiz Night – winners were...



With around 35 participants including a few last minute entries/changes that put the organiser(s) to a bit of a pre-quiz thinking test, the Quiz Night got off to a good start. Steve climbed over to our side of the bar to become the SCTC Quiz Master for the night, and Roger treated us with his culinary delights of the Special Menu – enjoyed by all. After a fierce battle for the No.1 spot, the title and the prize money went to the team “On Your Marks”. Accusations were flying on the night due to the organiser being in the team, but it was not a fix (honest!). We just happened to have the cleverest people in the team.

Adrian Davis Open Tournament

Over the weekend of 10th-11th April, SCTC saw a number of visitors from neighbouring clubs taking part in this tournament. (See also “Word from the Chairman”)

MEN’S DOUBLES

Winners Shozeb Haider/Andrew Holmes (Cheam Fields)

Runners Up Andy Varley/Michael Davis (SCTC)

LADIES’ DOUBLES

Winners Joanna Levitt/Emma Maddocks (Purley Bury & Park Langley)

Runners Up Amy Farrin/Jill Farrin (Purley Bury)

MIXED DOUBLES

Winners Jo Green/Steve Cox (SCTC)

Runners Up Lydia Fernandes/Ali Horsford (Purley Bury)

A Simple Matter of the Tennis Balls

We have some new members, so I thought it was a good opportunity to remind everyone again. It is quite simple. If we don’t all take responsibility for collecting the balls and putting them back into the box at the end of each club session, there will simply be no tennis balls to play with in the following sessions. I am bored of writing about balls, and I’m sure you are bored of reading about them: so... PLEASE, EVERYONE!! MAKE SURE YOU PICK UP THE BALLS AND PUT THEM BACK. And no rude comments please.

Summer Tournament

SCTC has been witness to a number of top quality tournament matches over the last few weeks, and it is always encouraging to see a crowd show up supporting the players. On Finals Day this year (17th July), we are planning to have a tent outside selling refreshments, so you can fully concentrate on cheering for the finalists without having to leave your seats! For those of you who missed out on Wimbledon tickets, I’m sure Finals Day will be just as entertaining. We have over 45 members taking part and chasing the 2010 Titles.

The After Party

This year we are planning to make this a little bit different. We will have a BBQ immediately following the the presentation of trophies, then the After Party will follow. Look out for the poster!

Playing in of new members

Just a reminder that when new members join, they must be “played in” by one of the committee members or a team captain before participating in club sessions. The required playing standard is that a player must:

- be able to keep a rally going
- be able to serve
- know how to score
- know where to stand

Battle of the Bands (August – date TBD)

We will have several members/family and friends forming their own bands and performing at SCTC. And they will be competing against each other! This is guaranteed to be a night to remember. If you would like to take part in performing on the night, please speak to one of the committee members or Andy Ross.

Word from the Chairman



We have seen yet another successful winter season with the majority of teams moving up – testament to all the hard work from the captains and of course you the players who turn up week after week. So on behalf of the club, I thank you all.

The Adrian Davis Open Tennis Tournament on 11th and 12th April was a great success. Premier Show Freight sponsored the main trophies that will be engraved with the winners' names and kept at the club for all to see. The event was well organised as always by Mark and Andy from MDL and it was especially fitting on several fronts. Adrian's wife Aurora presented the trophies and Michael, Adrian's son, received the men's doubles runners-up trophy (with partner Andy Varley). Sunday 12th was also Adrian's birthday.

This year, the event was mainly promoted to team players. Following your

suggestions and reminders that Adrian was a regular at club sessions as well as playing for our teams, as of next year there will be further events for non team players, open to all.

Talking of tournaments, our main one is well on its way (thank you Paul and Jeremy for running it). I would like to think that this year's tournament can be the Biggest and Best Ever- watch the notice boards for "special events" on Finals Day!

Finally I would like to remind you that if you have any issues or concerns, please feel free to bring it me personally or another member of the Tennis Committee. We are here to represent you and ensure that all is well - we try to cover everything but some things might slip through the net, so please let us know.

I hope you are all having a great summer season!

Chairman
Steve Cox

“Intercept at the Net”

When playing doubles, it's a good idea to sometimes intercept at the net. This will make your opponents think far more when they play their ground strokes and invariably encourage more unforced errors.

Most club doubles is played with one player at the net and their partner at the baseline. In this situation, I would almost always suggest that you aim your intercepting volley cross-court and at the service line, for the following reasons:

1. If your opponents are serving, usually the partner of the receiving player is standing on the service line and so your volley will be at their feet, giving them a very awkward shot, which they will have to hit up, if they manage to hit it at all.
2. When the rally is in full swing, you will normally have one player right up at the net and one back, so if you manage to intercept the baseline rally and aim your shot at the crosscourt service line, you will be hitting into the space.
3. Not only is this the most tactically effective place to hit your interception, but it is also one of the safest, as you have a very large margin for error when you are placing your shot here. Too often in tennis, people will go for the lines, when a much safer shot such as this is just as effective.

Lastly, don't be afraid to be aggressive on this shot. As we have said, there is a high margin for error when you place the ball on the crosscourt service line, so you can afford to hit the ball harder than normal. This is a volley that, when hit above the height of the net, shouldn't really be coming back!

By Andy Ross

Surrey League Home Match Fixtures

Our teams are playing at home on the following dates – come support the players!

18 July 1pm	Ladies' I vs Spencer I
8 August 1pm	Men's I vs Dormansland
TBC	Ladies II vs Wigmore IV
TBC	Mixed III vs Sanderstead
TBC	Men's IV vs Cheam II

Upcoming events

August	Battle of the Bands
17 July	Tournament Finals Day Followed by The After Party
September	Joint Tennis/Badminton Tournament

South Croydon's very own Wimbledon Champion!!

Congratulations to Ann Eley on winning the All England Lawn Tennis Club, Ladies Doubles Title, with her partner Michelle Oldham. This indoor tournament, held at Wimbledon, started in September last year, and the finals were held on the 24th April. Ann and Michelle won the final 6-2, 6-1.

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We welcome contributions to the newsletter in the form of articles, photos or otherwise. Please contact Maki with any suggestions or email the Office using the email address above.