



CLUB STRATEGY STATEMENT

To become a vibrant tennis community abounding in goodwill and creative energy, celebrating and sharing our resources and extending a warm welcome to all ages and stages of tennis capability. Developing a strong level of social activity in harmony with the local community and strengthening our relationships with all other organisations operating in the Holloway Hill recreation ground.

Chris Jagger, BTA chair:

Dear BTA Members,

Welcome to the first edition of the BTA Newsletter, which we hope will support the BTA website to become a regular feature, giving you the latest news and information from the club. We aim to provide details about club nights, tennis ladders, coaching, developments and of course, those all-important social and fundraising events!

BTA Contact Details

Website: <http://www.busbridgetennis.co.uk>
Newsletter: busbridgetennisnews@gmail.com
Coaching: sgtennis@live.co.uk

With the spring bulbs starting to show, first newsletter is hopefully a gentle reminder of the long summer days to look forward to, with lots of opportunities to make the most of the fantastic new courts at Holloway Hill.

Since its inception 2 years ago, the BTA has grown to an impressive 548 members. The club's main aim is to promote fun and social tennis, through a spirit of encouragement for players of all standards and ages, so that skills can be improved and friendships made.

The prime focus is the club nights held every Tuesday. The aim of these nights is to have fun, without the worry that formal competition sometimes brings, so they remain the best way of getting involved. More specific details about the club nights are found below.

In addition to club nights, a men's ladder to satisfy the more competitive natures has just started, and there are opportunities for juniors' and women's ladders (see below). There is also a coaching team offering one-to-one, group, senior or junior coaching, with full details below.

COMPETITION TIME – What's in a name?

Can you come up with a snappier name for the newsletter? Email all (clean!) suggestions and the best wins a tube of balls.

For details on how to get in touch with the club and the newsletter, please look at the "Keep in touch" box at the bottom of the newsletter. Any feedback and suggestions for moving the newsletter forward are most welcome (and you may even receive a mention in the next newsletter!).



CLUB NEWS

The Annual General Meeting was held on the 17th November, and the minutes are provided as an additional attachment in the email of this newsletter.

BUSBRIDGE CLUB NIGHTS:

The first club night back at Busbridge will be towards the end of April, with the exact date being announced in the April newsletter (it will need to be light enough, unless glow in the dark balls have been invented!).

For those who have never attended club night, it is a wonderful chance to play with and against people of all ages and abilities. Just turn up after 6.30pm with your racquet (balls are provided) and you will be paired with another player for five doubles games. You will then be put with another three players for five more games and so on. You can play as many or as few matches as you like. The emphasis is very much on fun and social tennis – though there is a bottle of wine for the highest scorer at the end of the evening (or large bar of chocolate for under-18s). There is also the lure of a much-deserved drink in the bar in the pavilion afterwards with prices heavily subsidised. Provided you have paid your BTA subscription you can turn up on any Tuesday night and join in free of charge. During winter months club nights transfer to Godalming Tennis Club in Farncombe (7pm-9pm) and each player pays £4 to cover the costs of using the floodlights.

DISCOUNTS

The Racquet Shop - BTA members receive a 10% discount at The Racquet Shop, 107-109 High Street, Godalming, on production of your membership card.

Holloway Hill Sports Association pavilion - Members also enjoy use of bar facilities (with drinks prices subsidised) at the pavilion, which can also be hired for social events at very competitive rates, with catering support provided.

Contact Barrie and Margaret on 01483 417459 or email at margrethogan@sky.com.

FLOODLIGHTS:

Planning permission has now been granted for the installation of floodlights at the courts. This is great news as it means that club nights will be able to continue all year round at Busbridge (instead of transferring to Godalming Tennis Club on winter nights) and BTA's coaches will be able to extend their sessions during the darker months.

The cost of installing lights for the four courts will be around £20,000 and work must begin within three years. Applications for any available grants are being submitted but BTA will also be asking members to support (or even organise!) as many fund-raising events as possible.

Initially, the four main courts will be lit, with the Multi-Games Area (MUGA) and mini-courts following as phase 2. The lights can be switched on between 7pm-10pm and discussions are taking place as to the most secure way of covering the running costs, with suggestions including pre-paid tokens or top-up cards.

WINDBREAKS:

As regular players know, Holloway Recreation Ground has its own micro-climate with gusting cross-winds being a particular feature! There are plans to install windbreaks along one side of the courts and funding is being sought currently. If successful, there will be no more excuses for some of our wilder shots.



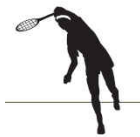
MEN'S LADDER

BTA coach Suzanne Goodfellow is running a men's singles ladder for those who want to play more competitively. There are currently 9 players participating but anyone can join (or drop out!) at any stage. If you'd like to take part, e-mail your details to Suzanne (sgtennis@live.co.uk) and she will give you contact details of the person you should play. You can arrange matches directly with your fellow competitors at a time that is mutually convenient. After each match e-mail your result to Suzanne and she will send you the details of the next person you should play,

Any women or juniors who are interested in taking part in a ladder should e-mail Suzanne and, if there is enough support, she will organise one.

SOCIAL DIARY

Watch this space for details of upcoming events, such as socials & fundraising, and maybe even some tennis!



COACHING CORNER



There are three highly qualified and experienced BTA coaches, Suzanne Goodfellow, Antoni Gomez and Paul Kozaki (details below) who offer one-to-one and group coaching tailoring their programmes to suit your abilities while building confidence.

They hold "minis" and "juniors" sessions for children on Saturday afternoons as well as holiday programmes. The coaches are offering a free 2 hour taster session for children on Saturday 27 March from 2:30pm-4:30pm.

Easter Camps run from Monday 5th April – Thursday 8th April, and from Monday 12th April – Thursday 15th April offering different time slots for different ages. Ten week summer courses will begin from 26th April. For further details including prices and booking forms contact BTA coach Suzanne Goodfellow by e-mail at sgtennis@live.co.uk and see the flyer on the BTA website.

Summer Term Time Sessions, which comprise 10 week courses for all ages, will begin from 26 April 2010. Again, Suzanne has all the details.



The Coaches



Suzanne Goodfellow

- LTA DCA Qualified Coach, Modern Tennis International Tutor Coach.
- Playing: Wiltshire Junior U14 U16 Squad.
- Coaching juniors & seniors in groups and one to one.



Antoni Gomez

- LTA Qualified, PTR Instructor Level Qualification,
- Assistant Captain 2010 Hampshire U18 Boys County Cup Team.
- Playing - 3 years professional Futures Circuit player, Spain.
- Coaching - Antoni coaches minis and juniors on Saturday afternoons



Paul Kozak

- ATP ranked Professional Player
- Played & practiced with top Professional seeds (Federer, Agassi, Williams sisters)
- Coaching adults & juniors, and also a certified stringer.

KEEP IN TOUCH:

The main purpose of this newsletter is to keep members in touch with events and developments within BTA as well as encouraging communication between members. Other ways of being involved include:

- Logging on to the BTA website www.busbridgetennis.co.uk and, in particular, using its very simple and efficient court booking system – something that will become more necessary when the weather warms up and the courts are much busier. If you haven't booked and the courts are full you may have to wait for an hour or more to play. You can book up to four 1-hour sessions per week (free of charge) but you must book a week in advance. Reservations are then posted on the noticeboard at the courts.
- Use the noticeboard at the courts. You can post "find a match" notices suggesting times when you are available to play and asking other members to contact you if they are available.
- E-mail the newsletter at busbridgetennisnews@gmail.com with any ideas or suggestions or if you want to contact other members for occasional games we will add them to the next newsletter.