

WYCHWOODS TENNIS CLUB

BEFORE YOU SAY "Ugh another tennis report" – and skip to the next page, hang on a little longer and see how the Wychwoods Tennis Club is developing and in the process uncovering quite an amazing amount of young and as yet untapped tennis ability.

Throughout the year the Club backed by the L.T.A. has been the venue for two national junior tournaments, the Nestlé Starter Tournament (May), and the Robinsons Junior Aces Challenge (July), both these tournaments were open to juniors in Oxfordshire and consequently our "local boys and girls" were in competition with entrants from all over the County. As you can see from the results at the end of this report the juniors acquitted themselves extremely well. In fact the under 8s winner and runner up went on to the Robinson County Challenge at the North Hinksey Tennis Club in Oxford in August and firmly put the Wychwoods Tennis Club on the map.

The national "Play Tennis" week in May was very successful with a Fun Day, Family Day, Rusty Racquets Day and a Schools Day. The Schools Day was particularly successful when around 180 children from Wychwood Primary were coached class by class, giving some children their first experience of holding a racquet. According to Rosie Benson and her mother, both tennis coaches, the average level of skill was very high.

Since that event the Club has met with Geoff Padmore and hopes to include as soon as possible, some form of coaching at the club for the children as part of their curriculum.

Since Rosie Benson's departure from her job as Sports Recreation Officer at the Beaconsfield Hall, Ray Muddle has ably taken on the role of junior organiser for the club. She has "front run" the Robinson Aces Tournament, run the Nestlé ladder competition and has established a junior club night and has many ideas for the future of the club in terms of coaching and junior leagues. She has been well supported by, in particular, Jean Kloos and by the mothers of the various children involved.

The Nestlé Ladder competition culminated on 2nd September with a cup and prize presentation preceded by a B.B.Q. given by the Club. The weather was perfect and the burgers, sausages and puddings unfortunately from a personal point of view, irresistible.

You may be thinking by now that the club does not have any adult playing members, nothing could be further from the truth. This year our adult membership stands at 93 which is an increase of 16 on 1998. Needless to say our juniors have increased even more from 55 in 1998 to 110 this year. The adults have been playing this year in a local Friendly Tennis League which has been greatly enjoyed and bodes well for entry into full League tennis.

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All the above developments and particularly future plans are based on the premise that the club will get a Lottery grant to provide three courts as the current two courts are already under pressure and are also beginning to show signs of wear and tear. It has been my lot as project leader with the support of Archie Clark and members of the committee, to persuade the Lottery Board that the Wychwoods Tennis Club Three

Court Project is undeniably essential and the arguments compelling. We are about half-way down the road to that blissful state but are confident that the many pitfalls and obstacles have now been overcome and that a positive result will be achieved within the next two months.

Having captured your interest I will now leave you with the results of the various competitions:-

Nestlé Starter Tournament – May. Under 8s

Winner – Josh Bishop, Runner-up Joe Dyakowski

Under 10s

Winner – Lindsay Auckland (Thame), Runner-up Richard Stratford

Robinsons Junior Aces Challenge – July. Under 8s

Winner – Josh Bishop, Runner-up Joe Dyakowski

Robinsons County Challenge – August – venue North Hinksey Club, Oxford

Under 8s section – 1st Josh Bishop, 3rd Joe Dyakowski

Josh Bishop went on to the quarter final,
where he lost to one of the under 10 finalists.

Nestlé Ladder Competition, which ran throughout the summer holidays.

Under 15s – Winner – Robbie Cuthbertson, Runner-up Daniel Blackman

Under 12s – Winner – Daniel Bishop, Runner-up Stephen Hissey

Under 10s – Winner – Josh Bishop, Runner-up Joe Dyakowski

Under 12 girls – Winner – Lizzie Adams, Runner-up Emily Hillier

Ian Carrington (Club Sec)

TALL TREES JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 23 October 1999

at Milton under Wychwood Village Hall at 2pm

Jumble wanted.

**Please contact Rosemary Salter (830559), Vernon Dean (878512),
David Yates (831078) or Joanna van de Poll (830090)**