

1st March 2018

Dear Juniors/Parents

Welcome to the 2018/19 membership year which is shaping up to be a busy one. Below is a brief report on what has taken place over the past year and what we hope to achieve in 2018/19.

Coaching Team News

Kathy, Jamie, Sarah, Clive, Lewis and Sam continue to coach at the club together with the help of Team Leaders who are actively working alongside the coaching team to ensure Avondale can continue to run a successful coaching programme throughout the year. Congratulations to Sam Conway who has recently completed the LTA Apprenticeship scheme and passed his Level 3 coaching exam. Sam will be taking a few months out during summer to work at Camp America. We wish him every success and hope to see him back at Avondale at the start of the Winter term.

Junior Membership – Subscription Renewal

1 April sees the start of the 2018/19 membership year. Upon renewal you will receive your 2018 membership tag, which MUST be worn on your shoes as proof of membership. Juniors who are approaching membership age will be contacted at the relevant time – clarification of junior membership can be found on the website.

Coaching Courses

Pay Per Term:

January saw the implementation of ClubSpark's coaching module for those players attending Pay per Term sessions, i.e. group coaching. With regard to this, coaching fees were increased minimally to absorb the administration costs charged by ClubSpark. The use of ClubSpark to book coaching has been favourably received.

Pay and Play:

With effect from 16 April, i.e. start of the Summer Term, Pay & Play rates will increase accordingly:-

Lesson	Fee/session as at 16 April 2018	
	Member	Non-Member
Sat – Group 1 (45 mins)	£5.00	£5.00
Sat – Group 2 (45 mins)	£5.00	-
Sat – Groups 3 & 4 (60 mins)	£6.00	-

Social Media

The coaching team continue to use Avondale's Closed Facebook group to notify parents of cancellations/upcoming events. We have also recently implemented the use of WhatsApp. If you require a link to either of these groups please get in touch with Zana. We also attempt to email and text when there is sufficient time, however, Social Media is proving to be the quickest means of keeping parents informed.

British Tennis Membership and Ratings

We encourage Juniors members to become British Tennis members and gain an LTA rating which is a way of measuring your tennis ability and ensures you enter the correct level of competition should you decide to do so. There are various membership categories available – please visit <https://www.lta.org.uk/member/> for further information. Please remember to put Avondale as your place to play. Click [here](#) for a step by step guide on becoming a British Tennis member.

Monday Junior Social Evenings – 6.00pm-8.00pm – Ages 9+

Monday Night Junior Social evenings, which will commence Monday 23 April, gives players aged 9+ a chance to play more tennis outside of their lessons in an attempt to practice what they have learnt. Activities are also arranged on a weekly basis for those children who prefer a more structured theme to their evening. Cost: Members free – Non-Members £3.00. We require volunteers to help in the clubhouse on these nights, a sign up sheet will be posted in the club house for those parents wishing to help each term.

Family Fun Drills and Games – Monday 7.00pm-8.00pm

Due to the popularity of the Family Drills last year, we continued to run these sessions throughout the winter. The sessions are open to a child aged 9+ and a parent (or other person in the family aged 18+):

- parent Member, child Member. Cost nil.
- parent Member, child Non-member. Cost £3.
- parent Non-member, child Member. Cost £4.

Team Challenges

2017 saw the introduction of Cluster Tennis – an event where participants play friendly non-competitive matches with the help and guidance of coaches/leaders against children from other clubs to improve confidence. We anticipate running more of these events during 2018 and would encourage your children to participate.

Junior Tournament

The introduction of a new category for those players with a 10.2-10.1 rating in the Junior Tournament last year proved a success with a number of junior members entering this category resulting in there being enough players for a plate tournament to be played increasing the number of matches available to each individual. Further information on this year's Junior Tournament will be circulated during the first week of April and we hope to see a lot more Junior Members signing up. Entering tournaments is a great way to build up confidence and gain experience of match play and results go towards your ranking. The finals will be held on 8-9 September 2018.

Family Tournament – 2 June 2018, 10:00-1:00

The Family Tournament is played in pairs. Each pair comprises a child under 18 and another person in the family aged over 18. At least one player must be a Club Member. The format will be dependent on the number of entries and variety of ages and will be revealed on the day. There will be a handicap system to make play fairer. Further information will be circulated nearer the time. Last year's event was well attended: lots of fun was had by all with matches being played with orange balls, different racquet sizes and various other handicaps being put in place throughout the morning.

The Quorn Family Tennis Cup – Saturday 14 April 2018

We are pleased to be holding our fourth Quorn Family Cup this year. This is a family tournament for U10s held at venues throughout the country. The winners of each red ball competition will earn the opportunity of a day out at a Quorn Family Tennis Cup event held on the qualifying weekend of a LTA Staged Grass Court tournament in June and each pair will have the chance to play against other winners on the day as well as watch the professional players in action. We hope to see a lot of families signing up.

We look forward to seeing you on the courts during the months ahead.

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