

WILTSHIRE 2020

- There are 47 LTA Registered Venues in Wiltshire – these figures are based on 2019/2020 venue registration.
- 8 Wiltshire venues joined the [LTA Rally](#) in 2020, to make it easier for people to find and book a court.
- There are 50 LTA accredited coaches in the County – 19 Accredited and 31 Accredited+
- 30 coaches have been trained to deliver the [LTA Youth programme](#). Building on the success of Tennis for Kids, LTA Youth is a fresh, modern and comprehensive coaching programme for children aged 4 - 18 years. Coaches are able to access a suite of videos and session plans for all stages of player development.
- 31 Wiltshire coaches are part of the Wiltshire Tennis Coach Network. Wiltshire Tennis set up this coach network in 2019 and it is a huge success. It continues to grow and enables the County and the coaches, to engage with each other either via meetings or the whats app messaging group.
- Over 100 players were selected for our Junior County Training programme in 2019-2020 and 5 camps were held before covid struck. During the lockdown so we continued to engage with the juniors, the County produced a Wiltshire Tennis [Activity Book](#) for the younger players, set social media tennis challenges and held zoom talks with Sarah Borwell and Amelia Bissett. The County Training programme for the 2020/2021 County Squads includes monthly training camps, zoom fitness sessions, a nutrition workshop, clay court training and additional internal matchplay opportunities. A big thank you to our captains – Neil Watts, Becky Watts, Will Baillie, Lewis Fletcher, Catherine Fletcher, Lauren Prince, Matt Rutland, Neil Little and Joe Revelle - who coach and support our County Junior Teams.
- A new Wiltshire Tennis clothing shop has been developed online for all junior, adult and senior County players.
- LTA Tennis Awards 2020 - Wiltshire Tennis presented the following awards at the 2019 AGM :

- **Club of the Year**
Wanborough Tennis Club
- **Coach of the Year**
Lewis Fletcher (Ramsbury TC)
- **Community Award**
Trowbridge Town Park
- **Volunteer of the Year**
Karen Wigley (Marshfield TC)
- **Competition of the Year**
The Ninety Open Tournament
- **Young Person of the Year**
Theo Lewis (Wanborough TC)
- **Lifetime Achievement Award**
Colin Gratton (Pewsey TC)



- An additional award for the **Player of the Year** was presented to William Burrige.

Nominations for the 2021 Awards have now closed and the winners will be announced in the new year.

WILTSHIRE TENNIS SAFEGUARDING 2020

Report from Liz Lewis – Wiltshire Tennis Safeguarding Officer Email: Safeguarding@wiltshiretennis.org.uk

General

We work closely with the LTA to support and promote high standards of safeguarding, and make every effort to run our events, activities and competitions in accordance with LTA guidelines. This has been a challenging year, so special thanks are due for the efforts of our referee, coaches, committees and administrator Kathryn Brooks.

Documents on our website

The following documents are on our Wiltshire Tennis Website under the safeguarding [page](#):

- Wiltshire Tennis policies
- WhatsApp guidance for coaches, venues, volunteers and associates
- Forms for players, captains and county teams.

LTA Venue Support Visits (previously Safeguarding Audits)

Despite interruptions due to the COVID-19 situation Stuart Parsons, the south west's Regional Safeguarding Officer, has continued with a schedule of visits. Some have been 'live' visits, others much more 'remote'. A brief summary of Wiltshire's excellent support visits for the 2020 year:

- 25 Safeguarding Support Visits carried out
- 16 clubs achieved the required safeguarding standards
- 9 exceeded the required safeguarding standards

Stuart Parsons, the LTA's South West Regional Safeguarding Manager, has noted nationally that venues are having difficulty developing and applying the required policy for the 'Use of Changing Rooms' (template available on the LTA website). Also, please remember to schedule your own policy reviews by the due date, particularly regarding 'Safeguarding' and 'Diversity and Inclusion'; many of these were updated between autumn 2018 and spring 2019 and so are due for review.

Special thanks to all venues for covering all bases in these unprecedented times.

JUNIOR COUNTY CUPS

The 18U Junior County Cup which was held back in February/March was the only County Cup in 2020.

18U COUNTY CUP (28 th February – 1 st March 2020)			
GIRLS		BOYS	
CAPTAINS: NEIL WATTS & LAUREN PRINCE		CAPTAINS: LEWIS FLETCHER & NEIL LITTLE	
GROUP 3A: CAMBRIDGE		GROUP 5B: EDGEBASTON	
RESULT: 4TH IN GROUP		RESULT: 4TH IN GROUP	
PLAYER	CLUB	PLAYER	CLUB
Jessica Doerr	Delta	Alex Heaps	Delta
Rebecca Heaps	Delta	Edred Opie	Chippenham/Delta
Jessica Longjohn	Faringdon	William Burridge	Delta
Georgia Ifil	Delta	Jack Goodwin	Delta
Louisa Fuller	Salisbury	Sebastian Pasmore	Bath
Amelia Pirt	West Hants	Oliver Martin	Bath
Erin Neesham	Bath	George Wardley	Ramsbury/Delta
Macy May Kilford	Delta		

WINTER WILTSHIRE NATIONAL LEAGUE – 2019-2020

AGE GROUP	WINNERS	RUNNER-UP
8U	Pewsey	Ramsbury
10U	Ramsbury	Salisbury
12U Boys	Riverside	Pewsey
14U Boys	Riverside	Salisbury
14U Girls	Riverside	Salisbury

COUNTY MATCHPLAY EVENTS – AUGUST 2020 – SALISBURY TC

AGE GROUP	WINNERS	RUNNER-UP
11U Singles	Harry - Delta TC	William -Royal Wootton Bassett TC
12U Boys Singles	Jaydan - Delta TC	Alex - Delta TC
14U Boys Singles	Michael - Delta TC	Hari - Riverside TC



WILTSHIRE MENS MATCH V THE ARMY

It was great to finally see the men's County Team in action against the British army on Saturday 31st October.

Having had the previous 2 adult events cancelled the team were highly motivated to be out on court again representing the County.

The team was as follows, Ross Gilbert, Edred Opie, Ben Langley, Rory Smith, Francis Smith and Alex Heaps.

It was a closely fought match with 5 of the 6 singles matches going to a final set tiebreak and Wiltshire were able to secure victory in 4 of those matches. After the singles round we were 5-1 up. The doubles were closely fought in the same way and it was a credit to the men that despite already having won the fixture, they played hard until the end and Wiltshire ran out 7-2 victors.

A huge thanks to the British Army tennis team and we look forward to the reverse fixture in the summer.



WILTSHIRE PLAYER ACHIEVEMENTS 2020

AMELIA BISSETT

Amelia started of the year in January leaving TeamBath Tennis Academy and joining JTC Tennis Academy in London headed up by David Felgate. Amelia's new coach being Alex Ward who reached a career high of top 250 ATP. Amelia soon settled into training and living in London.

Amelia reached the Quarterfinals of the British Tour in Bath and then had a very good run in ITF grade 2 tournaments in Tunisia in January reaching the semis in singles and doubles.

Then Covid hit in March but luckily, Amelia could carry on training at home and doing her fitness.

In July, Amelia won the Women's Progress Tour division 1 at the NTC which was exciting as it was televised live on BBC Sport! That gave her great confidence to win the U18 National Youth Singles in Nottingham in August.

During the autumn months and up to now, Amelia is training at the NTC and competing around the world in junior ITF tournaments. In October, Amelia won her second ITF Grade 3 singles title in Portugal and then reached the final of doubles in Spain in November.

Amelia's ITF U18 ranking is now 72 in the world and this will now allow her to play in the junior grand slams, hopefully this year, although the Australian Junior one has unfortunately just been cancelled!

Amelia's most enjoyable activity was playing Andy Murray in Corn Hole at the NTC at the end of November! Amelia has had a fantastic year and we look forward to hearing all about her successes in 2021.



LEWIS FLETCHER

Ramsbury TC and County Coach, Lewis Fletcher, has had an amazing year! Lewis took his personal tally of National Deaf Tennis Championships titles to 17 at the end of September after claiming his ninth men's doubles title and his sixth mixed doubles title at the 2020 event organised by the LTA at the National Tennis Centre in London.

With the European Deaf Tennis Championships that were due to have taken place in Germany in July having being cancelled, due to the pandemic, Lewis, is among the players on the LTA's Deaf Tennis Performance Programme now building towards the 24th Deaflympics, which are due to take place in Brazil in December 2021.

Lewis was also very honoured to be asked to be an ambassador for the Dan Maskell Tennis Trust. The Dan Maskell Tennis Trust invites athletes to help spread the word and support the work of the Trust across the various disabilities. Lewis joins Wiltshire's Louise Hunt who is also a Dan Maskell Ambassador.





SENIORS REPORTS – LADIES 2020

WILTSHIRE SENIORS LADIES TEAM CAPTAIN REPORT

Though disappointed the 2020 Inter County matches did not place, Wiltshire Ladies are looking forward to 2021 and have already entered teams in the Over 40s, 50s, 55s, 60s, and Over 65s for next season.

We are always happy to hear from interested parties so please contact:

Kath More: kbrockmanmore@aol.com. 07790 810757 Karina Weedon: klwtennis@gmail.com. 07973 740135

SENIORS REPORTS – MEN 2020

WILTSHIRE SENIORS MENS TEAM CAPTAIN REPORT – MIKE POWELL E: angelaandmikepowell@talktalk.net

As I prepare this Report, we are still in the grip of the Coronavirus pandemic and in our second Lockdown but there is encouraging news of progress towards successful vaccines to give us hope for 2021 and beyond.

When the first Lockdown was announced towards the end of March 2020, I had entered 5 Seniors Mens teams in the age groups M55 to M75 with the prospect that Wilts might even field a team at M80 for a friendly match. The team captains had just started to arrange fixtures with opposing Counties in the 5 groups but it quickly became evident that the County Cup event would be increasingly unlikely to take place and tennis courts were closed and competitions cancelled – even the Championships at Wimbledon! Government restrictions were subsequently relaxed and outdoor tennis courts reopened under tight controls, enabling clubs to resume operations cautiously. Indoor courts such as Delta Tennis Centre and David Lloyd Blunsdon remained closed with staff and coaches in furlough until Leisure Centres could reopen. Delta remained closed until planned to reopen for U18 coaching and organised groups tennis early in November but sadly fell victim to the second Lockdown. Fortunately, some international professional tennis has been allowed, including the US Open and French Open Grand Slams and this week's end of season event at the O2 in London. Some of us enthusiasts improvised hitting against practice walls, in my case set up in my back garden! Some players have not touched a racket since March but others have managed to keep playing!!

In September 2020, the LTA announced its plans for the Seniors County Cup 2021 and invited Counties to enter teams based on the 2020 event with groups formulated from the 2019 results.

Obviously players have got older & wiser, some with injuries or health issues and some will be eligible move up to higher age groups. Initial investigations indicate that Wiltshire would be able to enter 3 teams (M60, M65 & M70) but might struggle to field teams at M55 & M75 based on known numbers. M60 & M70 would be in Divisions 3A and the stronger M65 in Division 2A (M55 in 3B and M75 in 3, if entered). However, the second Lockdown and probable further future Government restrictions has now led the LTA to review the situation for 2021.

The latest LTA thinking is to run the Seniors County Cup 2021 on a more localised basis with counties grouped into geographical clusters – this would be a one-off arrangement without promotion or relegation. Entries are due by Monday 14th December but details of the new format may not be available until end December. Should this plan fail to materialise, there is always the possibility of arranging the odd friendly match with an adjoining county, if circumstances permit.

Mike Powell

Wilts Seniors Mens Tennis Organiser

16th November 2020



SWINDON & DISTRICT TENNIS LEAGUE REPORT

Due to the national lockdown in spring, the conclusion of the 2019/20 Winter League was delayed with the remaining position deciding matches being played in the summer. The division winners are as below:

- Division 1 - Devizes
- Division 2 - Chiseldon A
- Division 3 - Pewsey A
- Division 4 - Calne A
- Division 5 - Nationwide B
- Division 6 - Marlborough B

The 2020 Summer League was cancelled.

The 2020/21 Winter League started as planned but was soon halted due to Lockdown 2. With the current tier structure, the committee is hopeful that the season will conclude before spring 2021.

Andy Dickinson
Swindon & District League

Don't forget to follow Wiltshire Tennis on our social media channels

WEBSITE www.wiltshiretennis.org.uk

TWITTER @Wiltslta

FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/WiltshireLTA

INSTAGRAM WiltshireTennis