

Weybridge Lawn Tennis Club AGM Chairman's Report.

27th June 2020

Welcome to our belated "on-line" 2020 WLTC AGM brought about by the unfortunate COVID-19 pandemic that we are still facing.

As ever, we very much appreciate all your support for what has been another interesting and progressive year for our club.

In addition to this you will also find Brian Chubb's teams report outlining our successes and just one relegation from the various leagues we participated in last year. Special thanks must go to Brian for his organisation skills in ensuring these run so smoothly.

You will also find John Barlow's treasurers report and the audited accounts through to our financial year ending 31 Jan 2020. Special thanks must go to John for his financial prudence which will become even more essential for this and the coming years. Membership fees were not increased this year but will inevitably have to rise next year except for the loyal members who participated in our renewal reward scheme where 2021 subscriptions will be frozen at 2020 rates less any discount accrued for the COVID-19 club closure period.

We continue to successfully recruit and welcome new members to our club and fortuitously enquiries have soared of late and I am delighted that the majority of these have gone on to join us. Please make them feel welcome and involve them as much as possible whilst mix-ins cannot happen? We will, when we can, continue to attract new members via Open Days and other marketing techniques but if you do see people visiting the club please approach them and show what a friendly club we really are.

The highlight of last year must be the unveiling of our excellent new artificial clay show courts by Councillor Shweta Kapadia, Mayor of Elmbridge. The weather was beautiful, and the ceremony went very smoothly and was combined with our first Open Day of the year which resulted in at least four new recruits.

An enormous amount of work goes on to ensure the clubhouse and grounds stay up to scratch. I must however remind all of you to please remove all balls and debris from the courts when finished and on the clay use the drag and line brushes after play to ensure the courts are in ideal condition for the next players.

After numerous well attended club events last year and a successful Christmas Party back in December your committee decided to implement an enhanced WLTC Calendar of Events for 2020. Alas, COVID-19 has put paid to a lot of these events but we hope to salvage as many as possible when we are eventually allowed to re-open properly.

We continue to try and improve our communication with our members via email newsletters and our website www.veybrigeltc.com but as ever good content is hard to come by so please if you have any items for inclusion please drop a line to Mike McNulty/Richard Kottler or any other committee member and we will ensure it is posted.

I am, as ever, particularly proud of our continued progress with the juniors - almost half the members of this club are under 18 years old so please read Adrian's excellent summary of the varied activities he and his team of coaches offer for both Juniors and Adults. Great work as ever Adrian.

We really are a wonderful and successful club, and I am very proud to be Chairman of it. I truly believe that we provide tennis and social activities for all needs and levels. We have achieved an awful lot over the last year and we as a committee will endeavour to continue this.

We do however always require more help - so if anyone has a little spare time or has a specialist skill that would help us, please let us know as it will always be greatly appreciated.

Please forgive me if I have inadvertently omitted anyone for their contribution and finally a huge "thanks" to the rest of our Committee and the support team who ensure that WLTC has such an excellent and varied calendar of events. It takes a huge amount of time and effort behind the scenes to make sure our club has something to offer for

everyone and do remember those involved give their time freely for the benefit of the club. So I really do urge you all to show your appreciation by making an effort to get involved with as many activities as possible throughout 2020/2021.

Please stay safe and well,

Kind regards,

Patrick Gibbon.
Chairman WLTC