

DSTC Bulletin 30 September 24

Autumn arrives with cooler, wet weather, as we monitor the Ecclesbourne river levels...

SHORT VERSION

- Pickleball is now established and will run indoor and outdoor sessions through the winter.
- Table tennis has started and is available for all.
- 5TH October is a great day to visit the club and socialise - with both the Tennis Club Championships and the Duffield Squash Open on the same day, providing a festival of racquet sport.
- Tennis is running big successful LTA Youth programmes and has a new format for the Club Championships.
- Fitness and gym classes for all have started well and membership grows.
- We have a full social programme, with booking available for several events, taking us to year end.

FACILITIES

Our helpful house manager Chris Johnson arrives VERY early through the week to open, clean and prepare the club for the day's activities. He also manages a significant number of our policies and procedures. Feel free to contact him on house@duffieldsquashclub.co.uk to bring to his attention any cleaning, repairs or other facilities-related issues.

Our coffee machine is a popular addition to the club - following feedback, the coffee has been strengthened so you'll get a finer brew. One request: please don't use the cups for water. In a bid to be more sustainable, we would prefer you to bring a bottle for water and a cup for coffee. Please also help us keep the clubhouse and ground tidy; we have waste bins around the club to dispose of plasters, ball tins, crisp wrappers etc .

TABLE TENNIS

Sixteen people attended and enjoyed the table tennis taster session on Saturday 28th Sept led by **Jon Mabbit** who aims to follow up with regular sessions, so keep your eyes open for further announcements. Let's see if we can build another indoor sporting option as winter approaches. Contact Jon on jpmabbitt@gmail.com.

PICKLEBALL

We can now guarantee play through the winter months having secured an indoor block booking at Belper Leisure Centre. We have four courts every Tuesday evening from 5pm to 7pm: everyone is welcome, but demand is high. The kick-off session will be 1st October, and we already have 20 players confirmed. There is a cost of £7 to cover two hours of play.

On fine days we will continue to play outdoors on Wednesday afternoons, from 2pm, and Sunday mornings from 10am. We have continued to welcome non-members to try the sport and are having great success with over 80% of those playing for the first time becoming club members.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in playing Pickleball, through the winter, **please contact Brent on 07885 427623**

SQUASH and RACKETBALL

The winter season is underway, and Duffield has three teams in the Derbyshire league plus two in the Notts league. Friday night is club night with a racketball social at 5.40 - 7.00 pm and squash 7.00- 8.20 pm.

Following a successful women's squash event on 20 Sept, we continue to encourage more female members: women's squash and racketball sessions continue on Wednesdays at 7.20 pm and Fridays at 9.40 am. Also, the junior coaching programme has started on each Tuesday at 4 pm, contact Lesley 07941312673 coaching@duffieldsquashclub.co.uk.

October 5th sees the return of the Duffield Open, organised by Millie Tomlinson - several Duffield players will be competing - come to the club to watch some great competitive squash.

TENNIS

The LTA Youth tennis coaching programme attracts increased numbers every week. All ages and abilities can participate. For more details, see the rolling notice board in the coffee lounge or just contact Head Coach - James Grindell 07968058383. The full coaching programme can also be found on the Duffield Tennis website - <https://www.duffieldtennisclub.co.uk/coaching.html>. October kids half term holiday club will be Oct 28th - Nov 1st. 9am to 3pm.

We still have availability for our **new format club championships** on Sat October 5th. There has been lots of interest and entries, and it's looking to be a fun day of tennis for all abilities, with a format that means everyone will get a good mixture of more sociable and more competitive games. **Entries close Wednesday 2nd October**. There will be tea and cake for all, and the bar will be open after play. Cake donations very welcome (please let Lizzie know if you can bring something - thanks).

Winter Team Tennis - this autumn/winter sees 12 junior teams participating in the Derbyshire Winter Team Tennis League at Derbyshire Tennis Centre. Ages range from U8 to U18. Look on all social media outlets for results.

Tennis Coaching - October kids half term holiday club will be Oct 28th - Nov 1st. 9am to 3pm. Look out for the flyer this week.

FITNESS AND GYM

Our gym and fitness section is going from strength to strength: membership continues to rise, and our new fitness classes have started well. Each Wednesday Angie runs Belly Fit Sage at 11 am, followed by Pilates at 1 pm - both are a great work-outs. Rich Brewin's popular Gym Fit classes start with an early bird session at 6 am on Mondays, then at 9.15 am on Wednesdays. There is also a Saturday morning fresh air session outdoors at 8 a.m. Tennis and Squash players are encouraged to use the gym more often to improve their fitness for playing - it's great value at £2 per session. If you or your friends are interested **contact Grenville (07881 265259)**. A reminder to all gym users to book your session whether all-inclusive or pay-as-you-go.

SOCIAL

Booking now [Event booking \(duffieldtennisclub.co.uk\)](https://duffieldtennisclub.co.uk)

Last chance to book Folk Singer & Storyteller, Pete Castle, this Friday 7.30 pm (£8). Pete will perform a variety of songs and stories for us. He has appeared at folk events across this country as well as overseas and has made a number of albums. "He's a real sweet singer with a beautiful voice." *American visitor to Folklife festival*. **Don't miss it!**

Saturday 26th October: Whisky Tasting - six of the best malt whiskies plus a ploughman's supper, all for £20. Book now!

Later in the year

Friday 22nd November: An Audience with Ashley Franklin

Saturday 7th December: Little Eaton Kitchen Chorus

Friday 13th December: Ray Hatfield

More **NFT events** to follow in Q4 as soon as our new, improved screen is installed - watch this space.

COMMUNICATIONS

We have reduced the number of notice boards at the club and are now experimenting with rolling notice boards on the TVs in the lounges, plus posters at the entry to the club and in the lounge. We retain obligatory notices and will reinstate the pigeonholes in a convenient spot. All reasonable feedback and ideas are welcome. If you would like to post an event or communicate important club information on the TVs - just contact Grenville.

In Q4 we aim to develop a new joint website for squash and tennis. This will be a significant project requiring a substantial budget and a major collaborative effort by key stakeholders across the united club.

Our social media activity is growing with Instagram and Facebook led by Millie and Francesca. Follow the squash or tennis pages to keep up to date with the latest news.

Grenville Holt

Club Marketing and Communications