


In this issue...

- Page 1 - Sound Tennis in Sussex and important info about the Wimbledon ticket ballot
- Page 2 - Sussex over 35s Ladies National champions!
- Page 3 - LTA news of increased help for venues and courses for coaches

Just scroll on through or print me out!

WIMBLEDON TICKET OPT-IN If you don't opt in you will not be eligible to enter your club ballot. Please make sure that you opt-in on the LTA website <https://www2.lta.org.uk/Login/> by the 14th February 2015.

By doing this you help your club increase its allocation of Wimbledon Tickets. All you have to do is log in to BTM and follow the instructions. If you can't remember your user name and password or have problems with the site please either click link to email wimbledonballot@lta.org.uk or ring the LTA 020 8487 7000. Whilst you are logged in please check that your contact details are correct.



**WIMBLEDON
TICKET OPT-IN
READ ME!**

Sound Tennis

Sound Tennis was introduced to the UK from Japan around 2006. It is an adapted form of tennis for blind and partially sighted people using a spongy ball that makes a noise when it bounces. This noise helps players to locate the ball as it hits the ground

No Volleying is allowed but partially sighted players have 2 bounces and totally blind players 3 bounces. The game is played on either a badminton court or using the junior orange lines of a tennis court. Players call 'Ready and Play' before serving so

that the other player knows the serve is coming. Other than that the standard rules of tennis apply.

We launched Sound Tennis Sussex on February 28th 2014 and are running fortnightly coached sessions at the King Alfred Leisure Centre in Hove on Fridays from 4.30 – 6.30 pm. Check our website or facebook or ring Paul on 01273 697339 for details of dates

Sound Tennis is a very inclusive game which encourages visually impaired people to play with family and friends. There is scope for all ages and abilities to participate and our sessions offer a great opportunity to learn in a safe and supportive environment

In October 2014, five of our players took part in the national tournament in London. We were thrilled to win the award for active participation from

Brighton & Hove City Council

In 2015 we are looking to arrange our first competitive match and to assist in setting up a new group in Eastbourne. We hope to see the sport spread across Sussex and you might see us soon on a court near you!

For more info find Sound Tennis Sussex on Facebook or Youtube or click this link to visit our temporary webpage at <http://www.citysynergy.org.uk/SoundTennis.htm>

Or phone Paul on 01273 697339 or Christine on christine.chiletosh@tiscali.co.uk

If you or your company would like to sponsor the Sound Tennis tournament on Sat 11th April at Withdean Stadium, Tondean Lane, Brighton, please contact Gill Andersson by email: gillandersson@gmail.com



Right on the line!

Sussex Over 35s claim their fourth national title!

Following 3 days of unbroken sunshine, and highly competitive tennis at Devonshire Park, Sussex Over 35s Ladies have managed to capture the crown of National Champions for an incredible fourth year in a row. What makes this even more impressive is that, despite being a year older each time, the 6-player team has remained the same for the past four years!

The title seemed a very distant dream this year as Division 1 was feted with other counties boasting GB players, and even a World Champion. However, Sussex understand the significance of team-work and team-spirit. The ever-reliable Helen Mitchell served up a singles win to commence proceedings, followed up by an outstanding singles win from Steph Trill over GB player Jo Shepherd. Julie Hanger, Jenny Hughes and Kate Bloomfield all followed this example by claiming rubbers to kick off the Sussex campaign with a 5-0 win over Hereford and Worcester.

Saturday, day 2, saw Sussex grace the Centre Court at Devonshire Park and face a strong Leicestershire team who were high in confidence following an opening win. Team Sussex missed Helen Mitchell for the first round of matches, staying injury free (and positive) was imperative. Team captain, Julie Hanger led by example with a straight set singles win, followed by another impressive victory from Steph Trill. Jenny Hughes and Kate Bloomfield followed with victory in the doubles to take an unassailable 3-0 lead. With Helen Mitchell back for the afternoon, Sussex took the tie 4-1 and went into the final day as unexpected leaders of the group.



Left to right...Steph Trill, Jenny Hughes, Julie Hanger (Capt), Kate Bloomfield, Julie Hobbs, Helen Mitchell)

The structure of County Cup means that final days are rarely 'done-deals' but impressive victories on the first 2 days meant that Sussex did not have relegation fears, but victory was far from sealed. Lancashire came out with all guns blazing. However, Sussex had yet to reveal their secret weapon...Julie Hobbs. With other Sussex players nursing aching bodies and weary legs, Julie was just the boost the team needed! Left-handed Hobbs teamed up with right-handed Captain Hanger to take both doubles rubbers and seal the deal for Sussex.

Team Sussex would like to thank all the supporters (both human and canine) who patiently clapped, cheered and supplied tea and ice cream variously over the three days. To win 11 rubbers out of a possible 15 over 3 days is a worthy achievement, and a credit to all players; of all the 4 recent titles, this was possibly the most impressive all-round team performance.

News for coaches and venues

Coach and Venue forums

Coach Forum

26 February 2015 - 10am to 2pm Venue: Virgin Active Brighton Health and Racquets Club, E. Sussex

To book please click on the link

<http://www.lta.org.uk/Courses/Search/Results/#/?format=/0&distance=10&location=Brighton&lat=50.828481&lng=-0.134429&page=1>

Venue Forum

Date 10 March 2015 - Time: 19.00 -21.30 Venue: Virgin Active Brighton Health and Racquets Club, East Sussex

To book use link

<http://www.lta.org.uk/Courses/Search/Results/#/?format=/0&distance=10&location=Brighton&lat=50.828481&lng=-0.134429&page=1>

Venue Forum

Date: 25 March 2015 - Time: 19.00 -21.30 Venue: West Worthing Tennis and Squash Club, West Sussex

To book use link

<http://www.lta.org.uk/Courses/Search/Results/#/?format=/0&distance=10&location=worthing&lat=50.813625&lng=-0.375424&page=1>

Great British Tennis Weekends

You can now apply to run an open day either using the dates below or your own dates. For more info click on the link

<http://www.lta.org.uk/clubs-schools/Promotional-Events/>

Sat 16th & Sun 17th May • Sat 13th & Sun 14th June • Sat 1st & Sun 2nd August

The LTA support:

To support you, we've committed to making improvements to the website and investing more resources into the marketing campaign. We're also providing a free GBTW Volunteers Pack for every participating venue in 2015.

- Team t-shirts so people know who's in charge
- Prize packs to give out on the day
- Signage to help players find your venue
- A sample marketing kit to give you some ideas
- An incentive scheme with 'money can't buy' prizes for you to win

To find out more and collect your volunteers pack please book onto your local LTA forum.

Safeguarding & Protection in Tennis-LTA

9 February 2015, 10.30-13.30

Cost: £30 Venue: West Worthing Tennis and Squash Club, West Sussex

To book use link

<http://www.lta.org.uk/Courses/Search/Results/#/?format=/9&cat=/6/7&page=5&distance=1000&location=BN19BL&lat=50.860916499999999&lng=-0.0842946>

This issue of The Sussex Baseline is kindly sponsored by:

FriendsLife

Babolat

R.T. WILLIAMS
Insurance Brokers Ltd

packaging advantage ltd

R.T. Williams Insurance Brokers Ltd - Insurance for all your needs
Highdown House, 187 Dyke Road, Hove, BN3 1QQ
Tel: 01273 328181 www.rtwilliams.org.uk
Registered address – Highdown House 187 Dyke Road Hove BN3 1QQ
Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

Published by Tennis Sussex, Centre Court, AMEX Community Stadium, Village Way, Falmer, Brighton, BN1 9BL

01273 505979 Sussex@LTA.org.uk

www.tennissussex.net

If you have any comments/articles for The Sussex Baseline please send them to the county office as we are interested in your views.

The Sussex Baseline is designed and edited by

NMP 01273 204522 info@nmproductions.co.uk who should also be contacted for advertising