

YORKSHIRE TENNIS



2020

ANNUAL REPORT

Presented at the
Annual General Meeting
7th December 2020





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CONTENTS



FOREWORD

President's Address 2

Chairman's Report 4

Statement from Head of LTA
North Region 7

REPORTS

Club, Community, County and
Schools Committee Report 8

Competitions Committee Report 12

Initiative Committee Report 14

RESULTS

Performance Committee Report
including summary of County Cups 16

LTA Tennis Awards 18

Yorkshire County Tennis Awards 19

FINANCE

Treasurer's Report 20

Financial Statement 21

Registered Venues 23

THE TEAM

YLTA Officials 25

Patrons and Life Patrons 27

LTA North Region Staff Team 28

YLTA Initiative 29

Obituaries 30

APPENDIX

Winter County Cup 2019 32

County Cup 2020 34

Cover photos: (front) 18&U Boys County Cup Team; (back, clockwise from top left) Great Ayton Tennis Club; Longley Tennis Club, Bedale Tennis Club, Dore & Totley Tennis Club

The information contained in this report comes from a diverse range of sources. We try to pull it all together as best we can, but if there are any omissions or inaccuracies, please accept our apologies. Please make us aware of any such errors. The selection of photos included in the annual report has been limited due to the Covid-19 pandemic and may not be of the usual high standard.



Geoff Newton – President, Yorkshire Tennis

When I took over from Chris Day as President earlier this year, little did I realise how the world would change in such a short time, and the impact that COVID-19 would have on all aspects of our daily lives, both sporting and otherwise.

From a tennis perspective, the pandemic has been a mixed blessing – it is so sad that there has largely been no competitive tennis both in the county and nationally

since March, with the cancellation, for example, of the Ilkley tournament, the inter county junior and senior competitions, and the Yorkshire Championships, which were so successful last year. The impact on many of our leading clubs has been significant and with the general uncertainty and likelihood of further local lockdowns, it will be some time before, hopefully, our club network recovers from the financial consequences.

The cancellation of the Wimbledon Championships, such an important event in the tennis calendar, had many

consequences, not least a significant loss of revenue for the county, which is a vital part of our ability to fund many initiatives, such as Advantage Yorkshire and the regional development programme at the John Charles Centre in Leeds.

On the positive side, the lifting of restrictions on sports such as tennis at a relatively early stage, has allowed us to enjoy the benefits once again of our wonderful sport and led to a very significant growth in participation, which has helped many clubs recover from the shutdown, and hopefully, we

will be able to capitalise on this situation as we go through the winter, encouraging many to maintain an involvement in tennis.

The response of the LTA centrally, Paul Bennett's regional team, and YLTA colleagues, to the impact of the pandemic has been very good, assisting, in a number of practical ways, clubs and coaches to weather the storm so far, helping to ensure we don't lose the key foundations of our sport. As a county association, we will continue to actively encourage and support our membership in Yorkshire in every way we can.

I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate once again our LTA Tennis Awards winners. Karen Mitchell, who has served Yorkshire tennis so well over many years in a number of areas, received the LTA Meritorious Service Award, a great achievement and well deserved.

Don Saul and Alice Robson, both from Ackworth Tennis Club, won the Volunteer and Development Coach categories respectively, and Ellie Lake was runner up in the Young Persons category. It's great to see the dedication of our Volunteers being recognised in this way.

I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate John Crowther, our chair, and management committee colleagues, on establishing the John Charles Centre in Leeds as the centre for regional development. This will play

a key role in helping many aspiring young players across the county develop the skills necessary to potentially emulate our leading Yorkshire players, such as Kyle Edmund and Paul Jubb. It has only been possible through significant investment, both financially and in other ways, by the YLTA, with support from the LTA, and will be a key priority for further development in the future.

It only remains for me to thank, once again, our councillors, committee chairs and administrators for their efforts over the last 12 months, and, in particular, the many volunteers who serve the county so well. Let us hope that 2021 will be a better year, both for tennis and life in general, with the resumption of the game as we know it. I am looking forward immensely to visiting many of the clubs around the county and meeting as many people as I can.

I am a strong believer that tennis should be a totally inclusive sport, with opportunities for everyone to participate and enjoy its many benefits, and I would encourage you all to create opportunities to make this a reality. We have many reasons to be proud of what has been achieved in Yorkshire tennis over the years, and taking this approach will help us to sustain and develop the progress that has been made.

Very best wishes to you all

Chairman's Report



John Crowther – Chairman, Yorkshire Tennis

In the various sections of our 2020 report, you will find one common theme – the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic and it would be strange if it did not dominate this year's report. Its impact on tennis (and sport in general) has been profound with no Wimbledon Championships, no professional grass court season, no lower level events and virtually no county-based competition.

The CCCS, Performance and Treasurer's sections go into greater detail, but suffice to say that it was a year which started brightly but fizzled out very quickly when the first national lockdown was imposed. Tennis was in a fortunate position that it was one of the first sports where social play was permitted allowing outdoor clubs to get into action and where membership numbers held firm or increased. Our larger clubs offering additional sporting/physical activity faced greater and more complex

challenges requiring assistance from the LTA and/or from government schemes.

The LTA responded with a comprehensive package of grant aid and loan assistance that have been widely adopted by clubs and accredited coaches alike. Without such packages, the hardship faced would have been too great for some of our members and coaches to bear.

Yorkshire Tennis also supported our members with loan moratoriums and a limited coach grant offer to supplement the LTA's. We did however stop the Advantage Yorkshire scheme of grants and loans due to the inability to forecast financially with any certainty and a very significant drop in our sponsorship income.

That said, we have reached the year end with a manageable loss but with our finances still intact and the association in as good a heart as possible. We then suffered a second national lockdown with no tennis indoors and outdoors but as I write the prospects have improved with the announcement of successful vaccine trials and the possibility of outdoor tennis from the beginning of December subject to living in right area.

We have also had to innovate in the way we meet and provide training. Yorkshire Tennis was the first county to embrace the era of 'Zoom' in the way we meet. All Management and Council meetings have been

conducted 'virtually' since the beginning of March and we see this continuing for the foreseeable future with the intention that our AGM will also be 'virtual'. This will require a change in our rules for it to happen. Our preference for the medium to long term is that we go back to physical meetings but in the immediate future we have to accept the limitations imposed upon us.

I have always taken an optimistic view on Yorkshire Tennis and it would be wrong not to do so this year as plenty of good things have happened. Let me list a few of the great achievements by our players, coaches and volunteers:

- Achieving second place in the 2019 LTA County Cup Leader Board. This is a credit to all our County Cup players of whatever age group, our captains and coaches. (We lead the 2020 but this is after only two events so does not count).
- Don Saul being voted the 2020 National Volunteer of the Year.
- Alice Robson being voted the 2020 Development Coach of the Year
- Our Boys 18&U team being crowned the 2020 National County Champions
- Our Girls 18&U team being runners up in the 2020 National County Cup
- Karen Mitchell, our Performance Chair being awarded the LTA Meritorious Service Award for her contributions as a player, coach and administrator.



■ LTA Awards Winners Don Saul (left) and Alice Robson (right) with Anton Maree, Head of Ackworth School (centre)

- While not strictly part of the county report, the progress of our Regional Player Development Centre at John Charles Tennis Centre has been excellent under the inspiring leadership of Richard Crabtree supported by Laura Crabtree, Elliot Chang and Tom Loughton.

We have been awarded an improved contract for the three years remaining on our contract with the LTA which will enable Richard to concentrate solely on his Head Coach role. Richard trades through Cultiv8 Tennis Ltd (Cv8) and our congratulations should go to him for a great first year where the pandemic was the catalyst for an innovative approach to maintaining the fitness,

motivation and tennis of our young aspiring players.

- During the lockdown Cv8 in association with Yorkshire Tennis ran a series of webinars for coaches and players that attracted both a substantial number of coaches and players and presenters alike, many with a national profile.

There are many contributions by volunteers across the county that overcame pandemic restrictions and opened their clubs for members and the public to play. Coaches had to become even more adaptable to survive the downturn in business with a few having to leave our sport to earn a living.

During this year, we have worked very closely with the

LTA Region, headed by Paul Bennett sharing information and actions to support our members. While many LTA staff have been furloughed for varying periods of time, much work has been going on to prepare for a return to normality. Changes to club registration and the distribution of Wimbledon tickets have been announced for this coming year. The launch of the Youth programme had to be shelved with its introduction now planned for early 2021. A new CRM computer system is being introduced by the LTA called 'Salesforce' which we await information about counties' access. Yorkshire Tennis has introduced its own 'Box' system that is being used by the Management Committee

Chairman's Report



to allow for storage and access to all our agendas, minutes and papers as well as having online discussions. We will be rolling this out to Councillors later this year and it will become our archive for what we have become – a 'virtual' organisation without the expense of a central office.

We are preparing for life after Advantage Yorkshire and provide our members with advice and assistance based on our, other clubs and the LTA's experience. We are calling this service 'Kitbag'. County training is returning and will continue at the John Charles Tennis Centre in south Leeds. The LTA is introducing new stringent standards on Safeguarding for Counties and we will be assessed later this calendar year.

A post year-end event needs to be brought up and that is the LTA's decision to scrap

all counties' 2021 Wimbledon 25% ticket allocation and replace it with a number of ballots for different class of volunteers, central control of county sponsor tickets and a five pairs of discretionary tickets that the county may apply and which is subject to LTA approval.

We have made representations at the highest level in the LTA of the potential adverse impact on county finances and volunteer morale who give up many days a year for the reward of being able to buy one pair of tickets. Coupled with the very real possibility that Wimbledon will have reduced numbers allowed to attend next year and the consequent knock-on sponsors being able to apply for tickets this could turn out to be a disaster for counties. Every penny that Yorkshire raises from sponsors is reinvested back into the county and if

the reforms go ahead then it will mean less support and investment.

We were very fortunate to welcome our new president at last year's AGM. Geoff has a tremendous track record both as a player and administrator at very senior levels of the game and he has brought a new perspective to our discussions. I am only sorry that his first year has been blighted by the restrictions and lack of competitive tennis.

Let me wish all our members the very best of luck for 2021 and that those new players who were attracted to our sport this year are retained. Finally, may I thank all my management committee colleagues and council members who continue to put in an amazing amount of work for the benefit of clubs, venues and tennis in Yorkshire.



Paul Bennett – Head of LTA North Region

2020 has been like no other year in British tennis that I have known having played, coached or worked in the sport for over 35 years.

The LTA's vision to open tennis up and make it more accessible, welcoming, relevant and enjoyable has never held so true. COVID has presented us all with so many challenges but the way everyone in the tennis community has responded through the pandemic has been nothing more than remarkable. We have been inspired by the many volunteers, coaches, staff and officials working across the tennis landscape in Yorkshire and we would like to say a huge thankyou to you all.

It takes a team effort to provide the best support and guidance in difficult times and we have worked hard with Yorkshire Tennis and our partners including many local authorities to be the best we can be.

In Spring, when the full lockdown was imposed, the LTA provided guidance and a number of hardship interventions to those that needed it most. Working closely with the County and Yorkshire district councillors we promoted and then helped venues access LTA, County and Government support. The LTA has to date allocated over £5 million to hardship projects including re-imbursing registration fees, providing hardship funding to venues in greatest need and allocated grant support to over 2,000 coaches and officials totalling £2.5 million alone.

Positively over the summer, tennis has been a sport that people have turned to and tennis venues across the county have adapted well to the opportunity. Over 60% of venues are now using technology and the booking module in clubspark to manage safe play and improve the customer journey, and over 30% of our club and park venues linked themselves to our on-line court aggregator – LTA Rally. The impact has seen court bookings this year growing by over 372%. Indeed, in Leeds over 75% of all clubs and parks are now using the technology and over 40,000 courts have been booked over the summer.

We have also seen the number of people playing in the last 12 months grow by 8% and many clubs have seen membership growth and seen greater use of courts. We have invested

over £500,000 nationally in grants towards gate access systems in clubs and parks and venues in Yorkshire are benefitting from this, including recent additions such as Armley and Almscliffe last quarter.

However, there have been and still are significant challenges both now and in the coming months. We know that remaining active has still been challenging for many people, especially those in more disadvantaged communities or those with a disability. Matt Elkington and Rashida Salloo, since returning from furlough, have supported 50% of our SERVES and Open Court venues to plan a return this year and we will continue to work with more organisations to deliver these programs next year.

Significant challenges will also continue as local restrictions will continue to have an increasing impact, in particular on those clubs with indoor courts and other indoor facilities like gyms. They are being hit the hardest and we are continuing to engage the Government to show tennis can be played indoors safely.

While local restrictions are in place, we continue to look forward to 2021. We have moved our club training forums on line with over 650 club volunteers and coaches having attended or booked onto a webinar this year. We have a whole range of training forum support including social media, finance, how to attract and retain members as well.



**Don Stewart,
Chair**

A year ago, I was reporting great progress on Advantage Yorkshire and looking ahead to winding up the scheme at the end of September 2020 with around £620,000 worth of support to projects across the county. Clubs were looking ahead to a great competitive season on newly resurfaced courts, under newly installed or refurbished floodlights with a backdrop of improved facilities.

Sadly, the final push to get projects up and running, or in some cases over the finish line never came. An international pandemic the like of which few, if indeed any of us, have seen before changed the landscape at a stroke. Something we hadn't anticipated and literally couldn't see had changed all our plans.

In practical terms it meant that we couldn't make responsible decisions on loans and grants as there was no sound basis on which to make reliable financial predictions. The sensible thing

to do was to close Advantage Yorkshire early and husband what resource remained.

The loss of the Wimbledon Championships, the wider economic slowdown, employment losses and business closures, with the attendant drying up of the flow of sponsorship provided a stark if unwanted confirmation of wisdom of that decision. Six months on, at the time of writing, we still operate in reduced circumstances with uncertainty facing us as we seek to look forward to next season and beyond.

But there are bright lights to find in amongst all the gloom. In reality about 80% of our clubs have survived well despite the difficulties. The early decision to designate tennis as an activity that could carry on, albeit in a restrictive form was to their advantage. The competitive season was lost but organised social tennis could proceed. Indeed, some clubs embraced the moment advertising and opening up their courts to all comers, members and strangers alike.

And for them the sun has never set. Court usage has grown, playing and players have increased and many clubs are also reporting increased membership as the Wimbledon warriors, rusty racketeers and erstwhile couch potatoes have found a new enthusiasm for an activity that they could play with their family and later, friends, outside and away from the grind of lockdown. Like gardening and DIY, tennis

gripped the nation's interest with people of all shapes and sizes, genders and faiths looking for any court in a storm.

For our remaining 20%, our larger clubs, often in areas of denser population, the picture was not so rosy. Yes, they could open their outdoor courts provided they could sort out their access issues which typically involved entering and leaving through a building that now had to be closed. However, for most of them their business and financial models depended on more than just outdoor court rental to at least break even on a daily basis.

Many clubs renegotiated loans, sought help from their bankers, local councils, government, the LTA and Sport England. Some furloughed staff and mothballed their premises. Only very recently have they been able to open again with strict rules about social distancing continuing to restrict the extent to which normal business can be resumed. In some cases, local additional lockdowns have caused a false start to reopening with, in one case at least, a period of only four days between the curfew being lifted and imposed again. It remains to be seen how some of these clubs will begin to recover now that they are finally open again and some of their clients and members are starting to return.

For CCCS it has been and remains a worrying time. Many

■ Clean up work underway at Thongsbridge Tennis Club in Holmfirth. Many clubs have taken advantage of the lockdown to carry out maintenance work and upgrades to courts and club facilities



■ Dore & Totley Tennis Club received a grant from Yorkshire Tennis for new courts/carpets. The old courts with lots of brown patches, which had become dangerous particularly when they were wet. The new courts look good, play well and are safe, which has attracted more members especially youth members.

Advantage Yorkshire was a three year scheme of small grants (max £5,000) and interest free loans (max £25,000) to member clubs to improve their offer. The aim was to ensure that our reserves were used for positive projects to help clubs and ourselves deliver our objectives of getting more people on court with rackets in their hands more often. Projects ranged from pieces of equipment, through watering systems,

service installations and other clubhouse improvements to court resurfacing and floodlights. All were driven by enthusiastic and committed individual club volunteers and many required patience and perseverance to overcome obstacles. All were delivered on time and on budget, give or take, and we shall be following them all up to see how they have benefited the clubs and Yorkshire Tennis.

Club, Community, County & Schools

of the clubs in the 20% have precious indoor courts which are vital to player development in the winter months, support county training and provide the facility which makes play possible all year round for the many.

The loss of any of these facilities would be a blow to tennis in Yorkshire. In addition, other indoor facilities are owned or operated under licence by local authorities. All local authorities face serious financial concerns as a result of the pandemic and most, if not all, are looking for financial savings going forward. Much as we love tennis, it cannot be a number one priority for local authorities and leisure facility managers will come under intense pressure to justify hanging on to such premises.

We have also seen the commercial operators of

indoor facilities looking at their bottom line. Once crowded gyms cannot operate again in the same way. But gyms generate greater income per square foot than tennis courts. Converting courts to gym floor space makes commercial sense but adds to the pressure on scarce indoor tennis facilities.

As a committee we have kept watch on all the above developments as well as noting that little if any tennis will have been played in schools in 2020. The spring term, the typical time for tennis in schools, was a write off. The LTA Youth launch was stalled. The coaching workforce was laid off and although both the LTA and Yorkshire Tennis funded some relief support for coaches, many were forced to find alternative means of income to pay the bills. The speed of their return to the game, the extent to which

sport in schools can be a priority with young people having lost academic time, the enthusiasm that can be generated again for an activity that is non academic and a luxury addition to a catch-up curriculum, all remains to be seen.

We have continued to work closely with our LTA colleagues in the North Regional team albeit in reduced circumstances as they have been furloughed at different times. I remain immensely grateful to them and to all our Yorkshire Tennis District Councillors who have kept in touch with their clubs throughout these difficult times and who have provided me with a wealth of information, detail, data and intelligence with which to build a picture of what has been happening in the county this year. To paraphrase Doctor McCoy, "It's tennis Jim, but not as we know it."



■ Before (below) and after (right) photos of the indoor court refurbishment at Longley Tennis Club: "We are extremely grateful to Yorkshire Tennis for the interest free loan and grant they have provided. Along with Sport England and Suez funding, it has enabled us to fully refurbish the court - new lights, new carpet, overclad roof so no leaks! We really are extremely pleased with the outcome, as are our members and users of the facility. They love it!!"



■ Bedale Tennis Club has been transformed, with the worn-out surface of its three courts newly resurfaced and floodlights installed, which has made a big impact on the amount of tennis played, the amount of coaching taking place and membership numbers at the club. Before the transformation, we offered coaching for juniors only for one morning a week. Now Jonathan Saddler, level 4 LTA coach, has adult and junior coaching for members and non-members at all level, on three separate days. Four club sessions a week are available for adult players of all levels.



**Carolyn Rothwell,
Chair**

The Competitions committee aims to ensure the running of the annual Yorkshire Championships and the Yorkshire League for participation by members of Yorkshire tennis clubs and Yorkshire players. It will also support and promote Yorkshire's participation in relevant LTA organised events. New events and leagues may be introduced by the committee for the participation of Yorkshire players. Use of League Planner and Tournament software will be encouraged to ensure player's results are recorded.

2020 was due to be a year of change for the Yorkshire Championships, traditionally held at the end of August. All age groups and events including Seniors were planned to be at JCCS, with Dave Kitchen masterminding the huge event over 12 days. The Yorkshires has continued to grow in participation and stature under Dave's wing, and

we were hoping to retain the crown of most players entered in the country, which we won in 2019.

The Yorkshire League is a doubles league, open to all Yorkshire clubs, with Mens divisions and Ladies divisions. Heidi Wragg organises the league and has been trying to get consensus from clubs about how to move forward with this well-established league, which is facing dwindling enthusiasm in the face of competition with local leagues, district leagues and the demands of being a team captain. Yorkshire is a big county to travel across to matches, but this league is well-liked.

There are usually so many different competitions running over the year, from Schools events, Local leagues, National leagues, Team Challenge, Road to Wimbledon, Quorn Family Cup to name but a few. As we all know, all competitive tennis came to a halt on 23 March 2020.

Despite the ban on organised competitive events run by the committee, there was tennis in Yorkshire at club level. Within Yorkshire ten venues signed up for LTA Team Challenge events pre Covid, and so far from July 2020 another six have joined in. The new LTA Competition Management System was implemented in September. This affects the way organisers apply for events, and manage them, and the way players enter tournaments.

Improved functions for player search, and the way organisers administer tournaments are in place.

All summer tournaments were cancelled, Grade 5-3, but a few Grade 6 events went ahead at the back end of summer, as restrictions were eased. Then from the start of September Grade 5-3 tournaments were introduced in Yorkshire. The LTA National League summer was all cancelled, but the winter leagues 2020 have all been set up by Claire Smith. 172 teams have entered in Yorkshire, from 33 different clubs. Last winter (2019-20) was a pilot year for this winter league, where Yorkshire only had 13 clubs enter 40 teams.

Mini Tennis Ratings have now gone completely. They have been replaced by Mini Tennis Rewards where players will get emails/certificates/t-shirts/hoodies based on the number of matches they play in each age group, rather than formal ratings. Ratings are still in place for juniors and adults, although it is planned that these will be replaced by the World Tennis Number in early 2021. The LTA has now made changes to age groups for competitions, based on year of birth, rather than by season.

We are now looking to plan for 2021 and would love to know what you would like to see, and feel safe playing in, for 2021.



■ Competing in the Yorkshire League Pro Series (clockwise L to R): Izzy Hearnshaw; Clay Crawford; Megan Hopton; Johannus Monday; Finn Murgett; Millie Skelton; Emily Morton; Katie Morton.



**Chris Day,
Chair**

Having served for three years as Yorkshire President I was delighted to be invited to chair the Initiative Committee following the decision by John Ramsbottom to step down from this role at the AGM in 2019. With enormous shoes to fill I do not underestimate the challenge this role presents, which is crucial to Yorkshire Tennis and its financial wellbeing. I will say more about this later but before I do, I would like to pay tribute to John who has done such a fantastic job over the last five years and who has laid the foundations which will be of great help as I lead this committee forward.

The Covid-19 pandemic has impacted everyone's life and it was therefore unsurprising that the decision was taken to cancel this year's Wimbledon Championships. I know that this decision came as a great disappointment to many who love to attend the Championships, and who were this year denied that

opportunity. Hopefully, it is just one Wimbledon that is affected, and we can all look forward to many more in the years ahead.

Despite the cancellation of Wimbledon, a great deal of work had already been carried out particularly with our corporate members. Whilst indications regarding their continued support were favourable, we were aware of the increasing and devastating impact of the pandemic and against this background we took the difficult decision to suspend this year's Initiative.

As a consequence, our finances were severely affected given that we rely on income from corporate members to support many of our county activities. One such example is Advantage Yorkshire where we have helped clubs improve their facilities through the award of grants and loans. This would not have been possible without our corporate member's support.

I would also like to thank our patrons and life patrons who each year contribute to the initiative through their membership fees and kind donations. This year was no different and I am grateful to those who made contributions despite the Championships being cancelled. I have already met or spoken with several of our patrons and life patrons, and I look forward to getting to know more of our loyal supporters in the years ahead.

As we look forward to next year, we fully expect the

Championships to go ahead though there will inevitably be some uncertainty as to the extent of crowd access. In addition, there is further uncertainty following a wide-ranging LTA review into Wimbledon ticket allocation which will have significant implications for the way in which we operate.

Changes include a centralised ticket allocation for county volunteers, the implementation of centralised sponsorship agreements for county sponsors and an LTA led review into county patron schemes. Once detailed information becomes available and the implications understood we will inform our volunteers, corporate members, patrons and life patrons accordingly.

With planning in mind, the 2021 Wimbledon opt-in process will take place early in the new year though as, yet we do not have a specific date. Please remember that LTA members must meet the following criteria in addition to opting-in: hold an adult (18+) or junior (11-17) LTA Lite Membership or LTA Team Membership and be linked to their venue via the members area of the LTA website.

As usual we have reviewed our Initiative fees and subject to any LTA related changes, we have decided to retain our patrons and corporate membership subscription fees for the coming year at the same rate as last year. We do hope that you will continue with your kind support which as I have already mentioned



photo courtesy of AELTC

underpins many of our activities.

I would like to end by thanking everyone involved with the initiative including our corporate members, patrons and life patrons, committee members John Crowther, Geoff Newton, Adrian Waite, Ian Hargreaves and Brian Smith and last but certainly not least our administrator Ann Rushworth whose organisational support is invaluable.





**Karen Mitchell,
Chair**

I would like to start my report by congratulating our Yorkshire head coaches, Elliot Chang, Tom Loughton and the Cultiv8 team (RPDC), on their first year. The monthly newsletters from the head coaches has been a welcome new addition to the players, parents and coaches, with up to date information. All these can be accessed on the Yorkshire Tennis website.

After finishing second in the County Cup race 2019, the Ladies missed out by one match to return to Division 1 in the Winter County Cup. The Men's side Captained by Steve McLoughlin were Runners Up again, just missing out on the national title.

The start of the 2020 season saw the U18 Girls and Boys teams in Division 1 at Bath. On the final day, both teams were playing to win the title. Phoebe, Jayanne, Gabby, Savannah, Jess, Orla and Caitlin and Captain Calvin, worked very hard but lost to Middlesex to

make them National Runners Up.

JB, Joseph, Thomas, Johannus, Jack, Adam, Alex and Tom, with their Captain Elliot, won to be crowned National Champions for the second year running. A fantastic achievement beating Essex, Lancashire and Sussex. It is the first time the U18 Yorkshire boys have won back to back National titles – great team work from both the Boys and Girls.

It is now that I would be reporting on the senior age groups alongside the U9s-U14s. However, the season changed with COVID-19 and all county team events were cancelled. As I write, Yorkshire has also seen the Ladies/Men's Winter County Cup in November cancelled too. Fortunately, Junior County training has been able to go ahead in October in accordance with LTA Covid guidelines. I sincerely hope all training continues.

During lockdown, Cultiv8 Tennis held Zoom conferences for coaches, parents and players with Yorkshire Tennis. A huge thank you to the following: Steve McLoughlin, Richard Crabtree, Elliot Chang, Tom Loughton, Luke Johnson, Calvin Betton, Paul Jubb, Jonny Carmichael, Naiktha and Nik Bains, Oliver Waugh-Swain, Katie O'Brien, Kyle Edmund, Judy Murray, David Felgate, Jonny and Dave Marray. This was a fantastic way to bring the Yorkshire Tennis community together and to discuss all aspects of the game.

I hope we will see a return to our county competitive tennis and I would like to wish everyone a bright 2021 season with more success stories.

For information on county training at any age group please contact yorkshiretennis@hotmail.com



■ Ladies Winter County Cup (L to R): Jayanne Palma, Katie Morton, Emily Morton, Jo Craven (Captain), Eleanor Dean, Jess Dawson, Rebecca Hill, Izzy Hearnshaw, Megan Hopton

RESULTS

County Cup



■ 18&U Boys (L to R): Elliot Chang (captain), JB Pickard, Joseph Fletcher, Thomas Linley, Johannus Monday, Jack Batchelor, Adam Hillerby, Alex Tikhonov, Tom Smart



■ 18&U Girls (L to R): Phoebe Suthers, Jayanne Palma, Gabby Lindley, Savannah Dada-Mascoll, Jess Dawson, Orla Cooper, Caitlin Ward



■ Men's Winter County Cup (L to R): Steve McLoughlin (captain), Finn Murgett, Joe Newman-Billington, Tom Smart, Clay Crawford, Elliot Chang, Kyle Brassington, JB Pickard, Luke Johnson

Event	Captain	Team	Results	Outcome
Winter County Cup 2019 – Men Division 1	Steve McLoughlin	Luke Johnson, Elliot Chang, Johannus Monday, Kyle Brassington, Finn Murgett, Clay Crawford, Richard Crabtree, Tom Smart, Joe Newman-Billington	Wins: Surrey, Lincolnshire Losses: Essex	National Runners up Remain in Division 1
Winter County Cup 2019 – Ladies, Division 2	Jo Craven	Jayanne Palma, Katie Morton, Emily Morton, Eleanor Dean, Jess Dawson, Rebecca Hill, Izzy Hearnshaw, Megan Hopton	Wins: Somerset, Sussex Losses: Northumberland	Remain in Division 2
18&U County Cup 2020 – Boys Division 1	Elliot Chang	JB Pickard, Thomas Linley, Johannus Monday, Jack Batchelor, Adam Hillerby, Alex Tikhonov, Tom Smart, Joseph Fletcher	Wins: Essex, Lancashire, Sussex	National Champions Remain in Division 1
18&U County Cup 2020 – Girls Division 1	Calvin Betton	Phoebe Suthers, Jayanne Palma, Gabby Lindley, Savannah Dada-Mascoll, Jess Dawson, Orla Cooper, Caitlin Ward	Wins: Essex, Hampshire Losses: Middlesex	National Runners up Remain in Division 1

LTA Tennis Awards 2020



Category	County Award Winner
Lifetime Achievement	Derek Malthouse (Whitkirk Tennis Club)
Volunteer	Don Saul (Ackworth Tennis Club)
Young Person	Eleanore Lake (Sheffield College)
Coach	Alice Robson (Ackworth Tennis Club)
Club	Pocklington Tennis Club
Community	Thornhill Tennis Club
Official	Dave Kitchen
Education	St John Fisher School Sports Partnership in partnership with Batley Girls High School
Disability	Doncaster Lawn Tennis Club
Competition	Yorkshire County Closed
Category	Regional Award Winner
Volunteer	Don Saul (Ackworth Tennis Club)
Young Person	Eleanore Lake (Sheffield College)
Coach	Alice Robson (Ackworth Tennis Club)
Category	National Award Winner
Volunteer	Don Saul (Ackworth Tennis Club)
Coach	Alice Robson (Ackworth Tennis Club)
Award	National Runner Up
Young Person	Eleanore Lake (Sheffield College)

Yorkshire County Tennis Awards 2020

Yorkshire Tennis is pleased to confirm that its 2020 Award Winners are as follows:

Award	Category	Award winner
Headingley Trophy	Ladies Winter County Cup	Jess Dawson
Howden Trophy	Men's Winter County Cup	Clay Crawford
Mallen Trophy	Best Performance Girls 18&U County Cup	Gabby Lindley
YLTA Trophy	Best Performance Boys 18&U County Cup	Johannus Monday / Alex Tikhonov
Harry Smedley Salver	Ladies Summer County Cup	No Award
Bernard Austin Trophy	Men's Summer County Cup	No Award
YLTA Trophy	Most Improved Player – Girls	No Award
Brian Mitchell Trophy	Most Improved Player – Boys	No Award

National Awards

Team	Achievement
Boys 18&U Team	National Champions

County Colours

Category	County Winner
Men	Joe Newman-Billington, Finn Murgett



■ Alice Robson, Ackworth Tennis Club – LTA Development Coach of the Year



**Ian Hargreaves,
Treasurer**

It has been a difficult year financially for Yorkshire Tennis. The restrictions imposed to attempt to counteract the Covid-19 pandemic significantly reduced the activities it was possible to carry out with a consequent reduction in both expenditure and income. However, the greatest negative effect was on our income following cancellation of the Wimbledon Championships.

The balance sheet shows net assets at the end of the year of £657,727, still a healthy figure. £350,917 of the balance is out on loan to 26 venues, an increase of £48,000 and three new loans over the year. Consideration of further loan applications was halted at the onset of the pandemic. To help venues' cash flow, the offer was made to venues to postpone loan repayments due in April; 11 venues took up this offer. The loan fund is replenished by the repayment of loan instalments, currently at the rate of about £27,000 every six months.

We are holding £30,000 sponsorship for future funding obligations for the Leeds RPDC. £300,000 is available to manage the day-to-day business.

Income and expenditure

There was a deficit of £32,704 over the year.

County, Club, Community and Schools

Venue registration fees totalled £70,552 with four new venues registered. There were 150 registered venues in the County. Five venues did not re-register. As part of the collaboration with Leeds City Council, agreed last year over the use of the Tennis Centre at John Charles Centre for Sport, we provided £20,000 revenue funding to cover our use of facilities there for 12 months. In view of six months of inactivity, £12,000 of this remains unused. We provided £1,776 to support the LTA initiative to help local coaches during lockdown.

Advantage Yorkshire

Advantage Yorkshire was due to close by 30 September this year. In the event it was closed in April to protect existing funds given the uncertain future. £34,000 was paid out in grants to 11 venues.

The continuing initiative to introduce tennis to schools was unfortunately curtailed, but 26 schools managed to offer coaching under the associate registration scheme before schools were closed. Through the two and a half years of Advantage Yorkshire, £557,000 of Yorkshire Tennis funds has been used to help Yorkshire

clubs – £244,000 in grants and £313,000 in loans.

Competitions

The only competition held this year was the LTA National League over the winter of 2019-20. Entry fees have been taken for the summer competition, which it is hoped will take place this autumn. Road to Wimbledon and the County Championships were cancelled.

Performance

The only County Cups to take place were the Adult Winter and the Under 18 at a cost of £11,397. Net cost of County Training over winter and spring was £14,062. Payments totalling £3,600 were paid from the Aspiring Player Fund to top players in the county.

Yorkshire Initiative

This is where the pandemic has had the biggest negative effect on our income, with the cancellation of the Wimbledon Championships reducing our support from donors from £102,775 last year to £20,559 this year. This includes £9,259 from our patrons, most of which has been carried forward as a credit against next year's fees, thus negatively impacting next year's potential income.

Marketing & communications

Expenditure was as normal, totalling £6,084

Administration

Expenditure in this area was much reduced as Administrators were less occupied, and meetings moved to Zoom, saving on room hire and Councillors' travel costs.

Financial Statement

Income and Expenditure in the year to 30 September 2020

Income	2019-20	2018-19	Expenditure	2019-20	2018-19
	£	£		£	£
County, Club, Community & Schools					
Venue registrations	70,552	71,612	LTA registration	0	200
			JCCS	12,017	3,491
			Coaching	499	0
			Coach Grant Aid	1,776	0
			Community/disability/inclusivity	600	0
			Schools	0	320
Total	70,552	71,612		14,892	4,011
Advantage Yorkshire					
Associate registrations	320	880	Registration rebates	0	1,100
			Club grants paid	34,200	40,906
			JCCS grant paid	0	6,135
			Associates coaching	2,600	5,900
			Loan rebates	6,000	0
Total	320	880		42,800	54,041
Competitions					
National League	3,512	3,324	National League	2,497	3,025
Road to Wimbledon entry fees	0	716	Road to Wimbledon	0	1,140
County Championships – main	0	6,819	County Championships – court hire	0	3,915
			County Championships – other costs	774	6,469
County Championships – masters	0	1,060	County Championships – masters	0	2,095
Yorkshire League	0	570	League support	60	340
Total	3,512	12,489		3,331	16,983
Performance					
			Junior Corby Tournament	0	3,276
			Junior County Teams U9 – U18	11,807	23,023
			Adult County Teams	7,590	17,239
			Veteran County Teams	206	13,009
			Tennis balls and equipment	136	2,998
County clothing sale	2,205	1,368	County clothing purchase	1,935	3,095
			Thongsbridge minibus	1,200	1,200
County training – players' fees	9,811	21,411	County training – court hire	8,981	16,812
County training – LTA grant	5,000	5,000	County training – coaching	9,076	16,136
			County training – head coach	10,816	0
			Aspiring Player Fund	3,600	1,850
Total	17,016	27,779		55,345	98,639
Yorkshire Initiative					
Initiative membership & donations	11,300	94,830	Initiative costs	0	1,892
Patrons membership & donations	9,259	7,945			
Wimbledon ticket sales	0	90,355	Wimbledon ticket purchases	0	90,219
Wimbledon ticket handling fee	0	1,000			
Wimbledon lunch receipts	0	12,123	Wimbledon lunch payments	0	12,123
Total	20,559	206,253		0	104,234
Marketing & communications					
LTA – Tennis Awards	250	250	Awards evening	3,286	2,280
			Annual report	1,134	1,133
			Tramlines newsletter	909	1,098
			Website	435	1,332
			Other programmes	320	603
Total	250	250		6,084	6,445
Administration					
			Administrators	14,075	23,460
			Professional fees	560	765
			Meeting room hire	1,763	1,962
			Volunteer / Administrator expenses	4,548	9,129
			Other office costs	1,366	2,276
Total	0	0		22,312	37,592
Finance					
Interest	0	2,160	Bank Charges	148	495
Total income	112,209	321,424	Total expenditure	144,913	322,439
YT surplus	-32,704	-1,015			

Yorkshire Tennis Balance Sheet		As at 30/9/20	As at 30/9/19
		£	£
Current Assets	Loans to clubs - outstanding	350,917	346,292
Cash at banks:	NatWest current account	4,970	14,600
	Paypal account	4,160	17,782
	Yorkshire Bank credit card	3,999	0
	Yorkshire Bank current account	317,017	348,021
	Yorkshire Bank debtors	6,722	0
		336,869	380,404
	VAT owed by HMRC	1,298	3,514
Total current assets		689,085	730,210
Current liabilities	Regional Player Development Centre	-30,000	-29,000
	Yorkshire Bank creditors	-1,358	-11,437
	Approved grants on offer to clubs	0	-21,000
Total current liabilities		-31,358	-61,437
Total Net Assets		657,727	668,773
Loan provisions required			
	For payment of approved future loans on offer	0	48,000
	For possible future payment of loan rebates at 20%	92,579	94,099

Leeds Regional Player Development Centre

Income	2019-20	2018-19	Expenditure	2019-20	2018-19
	£	£		£	£
Donations	40,000	40,000	Funding from donations	40,000	22,500
LTA funding	26,000	23,000	LTA funding	25,000	11,500
Total income	66,000	63,000	Total expenditure	65,000	34,000
RPDC Surplus	1,000	29,000			

Registered Venues 2019-20

- Abbeydale Tennis Club Ltd
- Ackworth Tennis Club
- Adel Tennis Club
- Almscliffe Tennis & Bowling Club
- Alne Parish Leisure Association Tennis Club
- Alwoodley Tennis Club
- Appleton Roebuck Tennis Club
- Armley Tennis Club
- Austwick Tennis Club
- Bardsey Tennis Club
- Barnsley Lawn Tennis Club
- Batley Sports and Tennis Centre
- Beauchief Tennis Club
- Bedale Tennis Club
- Beverley & East Riding Lawn Tennis Club
- Beverley Town Tennis Club
- Bishopthorpe Tennis Club
- Boroughbridge Tennis Club
- Boston Spa Academy Tennis Centre
- Boston Spa Tennis Club
- Bradfield Village Fellowship Tennis Club
- Bramhope Tennis Club
- Brentwood Lawn Tennis Club
- Brough Tennis Club
- Bubwith Tennis Club
- Cawood Tennis Club
- Chapel Allerton Lawn Tennis and Squash Club
- Cherry Burton Tennis Club
- Cleckheaton Lawn Tennis Club
- Cliffe Tennis Club
- Collingham Lawn Tennis Club
- Copmanthorpe Tennis Club
- Cottingham Lawn Tennis Club
- Cragg Vale Tennis Club
- Craven Lawn Tennis Club
- Crosshills Tennis Club
- Dacre Tennis Club
- Danby Tennis Club
- David Lloyd Harrogate
- David Lloyd Hull
- David Lloyd Leeds
- David Lloyd York
- Denby Dale Tennis Club
- Doncaster Lawn Tennis Club



■ Pocklington Tennis Club

- Dore & Totley Tennis Club
- Drifffield Lawn Tennis Club
- Dunnington Tennis Club
- Ecclesall Lawn Tennis Club
- Elland Tennis Club
- Escrick Tennis Club
- Eskdale School Tennis Club
- Fulford Tennis Club
- Fulwood Tennis Club
- Goole Tennis Centre
- Graves Health & Sports Centre
- Graves Tennis Club
- Great Ayton Tennis Club
- Gregory Fields Tennis Club
- Grove Hill Otley Tennis Club
- Grove Lawn Tennis Club
- Hackness & Scarborough Tennis Club
- Hallam Grange Tennis Club
- Hallamshire Tennis & Squash Club Limited
- Harlow Tennis Club
- Harrogate Racquets Club
- Harrogate Spa Tennis Centre
- Heaton Tennis & Squash Club
- Hessle Lawn Tennis Club
- Heworth Tennis Club
- Holmfirth Parish Church Tennis Club
- Horsforth Throstle Nest Tennis Club
- Hovingham Tennis Club
- Huddersfield Lawn Tennis & Squash Club Ltd
- Hull YPI Lawn Tennis Club
- Ilkley Lawn Tennis & Squash Club
- John Charles Centre for Sport
- Kirkbymoorside Tennis Club
- Kirkstall Abbey Tennis Club
- Knaresborough King James's Tennis Club
- Leake Tennis Club
- Leeds Beckett University Tennis Club
- Linton Tennis Club
- Liversedge Tennis Club
- Longley Community Sports Club
- Malton Tennis, Bowls & Squash Club
- Market Weighton Tennis Club
- Marsden Tennis Club
- Marton-cum-Grafton Tennis Club
- Mashamshire Tennis Club
- Mexborough Athletic Tennis Club
- Mirfield Tennis Club
- New Earswick Tennis Club
- Northallerton Tennis Club
- Northowram Tennis Club
- Nuffield Hull Tennis Academy
- Park Tennis Club
- Pelican Park Tennis Club
- Pocklington Tennis Club
- Pool-in-Wharfedale Lawn Tennis Club
- Poppleton Lawn Tennis Club
- Pudsey Lawn Tennis Club
- Queens Halifax Sports Club
- Raskelf Tennis Club
- Rastrick Private Tennis Club
- Rawdon Golf & Lawn Tennis Club
- Ripon Tennis Centre
- Rotherham Moorgate Lawn Tennis Club
- Roundhay Tennis Club Ltd
- Rowntree Park CYC
- Rufforth Tennis Club
- Rustlings Lawn Tennis Club
- Salts Tennis Club
- Sandal Lawn Tennis Club
- Scalby Tennis Club
- Shadwell Tennis Club
- Shepley Tennis Club
- Sheriff Hutton Tennis Club
- Skipton Tennis Club
- Slazenger Sports & Social Club
- Sledmere Tennis Club
- South Cave Tennis Club
- Sproatley Tennis Club
- St Andrews Tennis Club
- St Chads (Leeds) Tennis Club
- St Peters Tennis Club
- Starbeck Tennis Club
- Stocksbridge Tennis Club
- Stokesley Tennis Club
- Strensall and Towthorpe Lawn Tennis Club
- Sutton-upon-Derwent Tennis Club
- Swanland Lawn Tennis Club
- Tadcaster Lawn Tennis Club
- Thirsk Tennis Club
- Thongsbridge Tennis Club
- Thorncliffe City Tennis Club
- Thorner Victory Hall Tennis Club
- Thornhill Tennis Club
- Todmorden Lawn Tennis Club
- Wakefield Tennis Club
- Wellholme Park Lawn Tennis Club
- West Tanfield Memorial Tennis Club
- West Yorkshire Tennis Club
- Westfields Tennis Club
- Wetherby Castlegarth Lawn Tennis Club
- Wheatley Hills Tennis Club
- Wheldrake Tennis Club
- Whitkirk Lawn Tennis Club
- Wigginton Tennis Centre
- York St John University Sports Park
- York Tennis Club

Executive Council

President	Geoff Newton
Chairman	John Crowther
Secretary	Duties undertaken by Alison Steel
Treasurer	Ian Hargreaves

Administrators

Alison Steel (County Administrator)
Dave Kitchen (Tennis Administrator)
Jessica Redfearn (Project Administrator)
Ann Rushworth (Wimbledon Tickets Administrator)

Area Representatives / Councillors

Angela Crossley	Wendy Hurworth	Brian Smith
John Crowther	John Linfoot	Trevor Stent
Chris Day	Karen Mitchell	Don Stewart
Chris French	Zsuzsi Puskas	Adrian Waite
Martin Gilmour	Jessica Redfearn	Margaret Whitehead
Ian Hargreaves	Carolyn Rothwell	Elizabeth Wilson
Jan Hornby	Richard Simpson	

Co-opted Members of Executive Council

Sue Stent (Co-opted January 2020)
Nicola Mooney (Co-opted January 2020)
Peter Vann (Co-opted September 2020)

Management Committee

Angela Crossley	Geoff Newton
John Crowther	Carolyn Rothwell
Chris Day	Don Stewart
Ian Hargreaves	Adrian Waite
Karen Mitchell	

Trustees

Stephen Freegard	John Ramsbottom	Peter Wilkes
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Independent Examiner

Rod Macaulay A.C.A.

2020 Sub-Committee Members

Audit & Finance

Ian Hargreaves (Chair)
Chris Day
Brian Smith
Bridget Hutchinson
Peter Wilkes

Rules

Chris French (Chair)
Stephen Freegard
Trevor Stent
Elizabeth Wilson

YLTA Initiative

Chris Day (Chair)
Ian Hargreaves
Adrian Waite
John Crowther
Geoff Newton
Brian Smith
Ann Rushworth

County, Club, Community and Schools

Don Stewart (Chair)
Chris Day
Angela Crossley
Martin Gilmour
Richard Simpson
Jess Redfearn
Zsuzsi Puskas
Regional LTA representatives also attend

Performance

Karen Mitchell (Chair)
Sally Bickerton
Jo Craven
Steve McLoughlin
Dave Kitchen
Rebecca Lee
Dave Kitchen
Elliott Chang
John Loughton (LTA Rep)
Tom Loughton
Calvin Betton
Nicola Mooney

Competitions

Carolyn Rothwell (Chair)
Dave Kitchen
Trevor Stent
Heidi Wragg
Christine Randall-Klee (LTA Rep)

Awards Evening/Social Events

Elizabeth Wilson (Chair)
Chris Day
Martin Gilmour
Adrian Waite
Jess Redfearn
Sue Stent
Paul Sheard (LTA Rep)

Marketing & Communications Group

John Crowther (Chair)
Adrian Waite
Sue Stent
Stephen Freegard
Jess Redfern

Vice Presidents

John Andrews	Stephen Freegard*	Robert Lamb*	John Ramsbottom*
Robert Armitage*	Michael Hann*	Charlotte Lindsay*	Dr Grant Roberts
Ann Barker*	Ian Hargreaves	John Linfoot	Mike Rogers
Reg Brace*	Sally Holdsworth	Pauline Longbottom	Ken Sainty*
Philip Brook	John Howarth	Sue Mappin	Roger Taylor
Derek Cook	Joyce Howden*	Jonathan Marray	Colin Tuffs
Christine Dalton	Wendy Hurworth	Steve McLoughlin	Elizabeth Wagstaff
Chris Day*	Simon Ickringill	Karen Mitchell	Peter Wilkes*
Mary Durrans	John Illingworth	Geoffrey Newton	Elizabeth Wilson*
John Forster*	The Lord Kirkham CVO	Katie O'Brien	

[* Past President]

Patrons

Mrs V F Adams	Mr G W Frith	Mrs M Marshall
Mr U Alexander*	Mr D Fulton	Mrs I M McLoughlin
Mrs C M Archbell	Dr J A Fulton*	Mr G Millar*
Mrs M Armitage*	Ms R Gill*	Mrs A Mitchell
Mrs J Bailey	Mrs D Gill*	Mr T Mitchell
Mr M Bailey	Mrs H Goodall	Mrs E McHugh
Mrs J Barker	Mrs S Green	Mr G Newton
Ms C Beacham	Mr J Guthrie*	Mr H Norton*
Mrs M Berrington	Mrs P Hall	Mr T Phillips
Mr G Black	Mrs E Halls	Mr R Ranson*
Mr M Bolton	Mr A Harmer	Mrs A Reed
Mrs S Bolton	Mr C Harper*	Mrs K B Robinson*
Mrs A Boocock	Mrs P Harrison*	Mrs A Rose
Mr D Boorman*	Mrs J Havis	Mr W Smith
Ms P A Booth*	Mrs J Hirst	Mr J Sowden
Mrs L Bowers*	Mr S Holliday*	Mrs S J Thompson
Mr K Brown	Mr R Hostombe	Mr C S Tuffs*
Mrs M Brown	Mr J D J Huntington	Mr G Vint
Mr N Brown	Mr M Inman	Mr J A V Wade
Miss H Charnock	Mr O Kaye	Mrs B J Waite*
Mrs K Charnock	Mr J Kingsley*	Mrs S B Wandless
Ms H Clauss – Goodall	Mrs S Kristall – Monnickendam	Mr S Westwood*
Mr J A Concannon*	Mrs J Laycock	Mrs J M Whitehead
Mr D H Cook	Mrs H Lee	Miss L Whitehead
Mr A Cope	Mr S Lee	Mr M Whitehead*
Mr C W A Craven*	Miss B G Leopard*	Mr T Wynn*
Mr C Denton*	Mrs S Lifford	

[* Donation]

Life Patrons

Mr D E Adolph	Mrs S Cooke*	Mr P Laudau	Prof J K Smedley*
Mr J M Ainsley*	Mr B Cox	Mr J Laxton	Mrs N Stockdale
Mr D U Armitage*	Mr J A Crowther	Mrs A Lees*	Mr J Stockdale*
Mr B Bannister	Mrs V Field	Mr E Lees*	Mrs V Tawn
Mrs E Barker	Mr V J W Fielder*	Mr N Lees*	Mrs H Tiliouine*
Mrs E Beaton	Mrs L Freegard*	Mr P C Lewis	Mr J R Tuffs
Mr G R M Bilton	Mr S R Freegard*	Mrs R Lewis	Mr P Turnbull
Mrs S J Bilton	Mr D Fyfe*	Mrs P Longbottom	Miss M O L Wallace
Mrs J Black	Mrs Galley	Mr P Mason*	Mrs J Waterson*
Mr J H Briggs	Mr C M P Granger	Mr S M Molloy	Mr M Weatherall
Mrs R Briggs	Mr J M W Granger*	Ms C F Murphy*	Mr D T Whitaker*
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Mrs B Burrows	Mr M V Harne*	Mr C Pinder	Mr C Wilkinson*
Mr M J Burrows*	Mr C Hastings-Long	Mrs B M Precious	Mrs L Wilkinson*
Miss A Burton*	Mr C Hill*	Mr R Preston	Mr N Wilson
Mr R Burton*	Mrs E Hirst	Mrs J L Ribeiro*	Mr O Wilson
Mrs R Burton*	Mrs D Hutchinson	Miss C Rowe	Mr D C Wood
Mr B I Chapman	Mrs Y G Johnson	Mrs G Seal*	Mrs K M Woolhouse*
Mrs V M Clark	Ms S Klaus	Mr P H Sharp	Mr J Wragg
Mr D R Collins	Mrs E Lambert	Mr N Skelton	Mrs L C Wright
Mr C Cooke*	Mr J Laudau	Miss H Slack*	Mrs R Yates

[* Donation]

LTA North Region Staff Team

Head of Region – Paul Bennett

Partnership Development Partners

- Paul Sheard – South Yorkshire, Kirklees, Bradford, York
- Gavin Sutcliffe – Calderdale, Craven, Harrogate and Leeds
- Laurie Haines – Hambleton and Wakefield
- Laura Lattimore – Hull and East Yorkshire, Selby, Richmondshire, Scarborough and Ryedale

Regional Specialist Roles

- Christine Randall Klee – Competition Development Partner
- Rashida Salloo – Community Development Partner
- Alyson O'Donnell – County Safeguarding Officer
- Matt Elkington – Disability Development Partner
- Jo Cunliffe – Workforce Development Partner

Yorkshire Tennis Initiative

What is it?

- A fund supported by companies, individual patrons or life patrons by subscription or voluntary donation.
- The fund is used to subsidise all or part of Yorkshire Tennis activities detailed in this report.
- The fund assists in development activities, performance, competition and the promotion of tennis throughout Yorkshire making the sport more accessible to a wider community and ultimately helps to raise standards.

advertising, public relations, marketing and sales promotion.

- Supporters can be associated with a specific event and enjoy a range of specific benefits which may include the opportunity to purchase tickets for the major tennis events in the UK which take place during the summer each year i.e. Queens, Fed and Davis Cup matches, pre-Wimbledon events at Birmingham, Eastbourne, Nottingham and the Challenger events which includes Surbiton, Manchester and the very successful Ilkley Trophy Tournament.

an LTA review into County Sponsorship and Patron schemes.

1. Individual Patron Membership £45 per annum plus VAT = £54
2. Individual Life Patron Membership £450 plus VAT = £540
3. Corporate Initiative Membership £300 plus VAT = £360
4. Donations in addition to the annual subscription to support our local activities continue to be welcome and details of the programmes supported by these funds can be seen through our website and in this Annual Report. Please note that any donation is not subject to VAT.

Why should corporate bodies and individuals support the Initiative?

- Supporters can be seen to be contributing to tennis activities in Yorkshire and local communities by

Details of the YLTA's Membership scheme are available and can be forwarded upon request. The following subscriptions for 2021 may be subject to change following

Further information from:

Chris Day, Yorkshire Tennis
c/o 2 Kingwell Mews,
Worsbrough, Barnsley,
S70 4HJ.
T: 01226 297704
E: chris.day5819@outlook.com

Supporters of the Yorkshire Tennis Initiative: Corporate Members

The following companies and personnel have all contributed financially to Yorkshire Tennis and we thank them most sincerely for their support.

- Age Partnership Retirement Ltd
- Allied4Vans (Hire) Ltd
- ATP Advertising & Marketing Ltd
- Babolat
- Black Diamond Investments
- Caddick Developments Ltd
- Chilli UK Ltd
- Gecko Direct Ltd

- Hawsons Chartered Accountants
- Hatch Communications Ltd
- Laver Regeneration Ltd
- LGK Farms LLP
- MKM Building Supplies Ltd
- NIC Services Group Ltd
- One Global Solutions Ltd
- Pinsent Mason LLP
- Pure Retirement Ltd
- Rosettes Direct Ltd
- Swire Properties Ltd

Colin Graham



It is with great sadness that I must advise you that Colin Graham, our President in 1988, passed away peacefully on the 8th September in Huddersfield Infirmary having been ill for a few years. The funeral took place on the 24th September and was a family affair restricted to ten people in view of the Covid 19 pandemic which we currently face on a day by day basis.

Huddersfield born Colin was educated at King James Grammar School, Almondbury and spent two years at Leeds Technical College's Department of Printing. After national service he became involved in the family printing business, Brook and Learoyd, which he

managed for many years and passed over to two stepsons.

"I have always been a sports nut," admitted Colin and he joined Longley Tennis Club when he was 10 and was persuaded by the late Brian Webb to join Huddersfield LTC in 1949.

He represented Yorkshire at tennis, squash and badminton but in view of a heavy schedule in each sport one had to go and it was badminton. He represented Yorkshire Tennis on County Week in 1955 and his last appearance was in 1967 when he became a member of the Men's Selection Committee.

He became a committee member at the Huddersfield club in 1954 and chairman for the period 1983 to 1987 and the district's representative on the YLTA Council from 1974 to 1985 and to finalise his administration capabilities he refereed the Huddersfield Open Tournament for at least 12 years (from 1974).

As a player he first represented the County in 1954 and appeared for the last in 1967 on County Week.

In the Yorkshire Championships it was a case of near misses as he reached the semi-finals of the singles twice, the men's doubles on four occasions with Tony Barringer and lost in the mixed final in 1962 and 1967 with Joyce Fulton and Charlotte Lindsay respectively but in 1968 he won the title with Charlotte.

He was a genial man and became Mr Versatility within

the Men's County Squad and partnered many of our more illustrious players during these years, including Michael Hann, Roger Taylor, Dickie Dillon, Terry Pickering and Brian Sheridan but Tony Barringer and David Hart were regular partners during this period.

Besides playing and officiating he was also a distinguished coach and took the Under 18's County boys squads at tennis and squash for many years. He also played football for 21 years as a goalkeeper for King James Old Boys and an allrounder for Huddersfield YMCA cricket team with a bit of golf and snooker thrown in.

In his leisure time he enjoyed hill walking particularly around Scotland and Austria.

What a sporting life!!

APPENDIX

Men's Winter County Cup

Group 1: Bath

22/23/24 November 2019

Captain: Steve McLoughlin

Team: Elliot Chang, Kyle Brassington, Finn Murgett, Luke Johnson, Clay Crawford, Richard Crabtree, Tom Smart, JB Pickard, Joe Newman-Billington. Reserves Nick Turnbull and Peter Ashley

Group 1 winter county cup is never easy, at the end of the weekend two teams stay in group 1 and two teams are relegated, so margins are tight. Once again Yorkshire finished national runners-up, something we should be very proud of. We had a great spirit once more with a good blend of youth and experience which will keep the County in good health for the future. Thank you to those who

stepped in late and those on standby, eternally grateful for that commitment.

Day 1 Win vs Surrey: 5-4

What a match, tight, and what a win, always happy to beat Surrey and on paper they were heavy favourites. A debut was given to Tom Smart. 3-3 after all completed singles and then terrific performances in the doubles saw Yorkshire edge it. We were strong and memorable performances from all involved.

Day 2 Loss vs Essex: 2-7

Tough day at the office, Essex last year's Champions just had that bit too much for us. We nearly got enough pressure on them, again good fight from Yorkshire against a very good team.

Day 3 Win vs Lincolnshire: 7-0 when event stopped.

We needed to win to stay in group 1 and to ensure it was

with a big margin so we could not be dragged into the mix if the other fixture went against us. Well the men responded so well after the disappointment the previous day which is a credit to them! It was a comprehensive performance and the team shut the door on Lincolnshire. We have been here before so I was pleased that we were so strong. JB Pickard made his debut and won. Well done JB.

Great team to captain and all gave their best for the County which is so pleasing to see. Thank you to the senior player's for their help and consideration, we had a great time, lots of fun and hard graft, well done guys and thank you. We have a competitive group and the final squad was difficult to decide but that's a good thing!



■ L to R: Steve McLoughlin (Captain), Finn Murgett, Joe Newman-Billington, Tom Smart, Clay Crawford, Elliot Chang, Kyle Brassington, JB Pickard, Luke Johnson

Ladies Winter County Cup

Group 2, Sunderland
22/23/24 November 2019

Captain: Jo Craven

Team: Isabelle Hearnshaw, Jess Dawson, Jayanne Palma, Eleanor Dean, Katie Morton, Emily Morton, Rebecca Hill, Megan Hopton

Game faces on, Yorkshire ladies are playing to gain promotion into Division 1; with a strong team and teammates flying back from US universities, I fancied our chances but it was definitely not going to be easy...

Day 1 Win vs Somerset: 5-4

Starting bright and early Yorkshire got off to a good start Jayanne Palma, Jess Dawson and Eleanor Dean all had solid singles performances. Megan Hopton and Katie Morton lost in close 3 setters and Emily Morton gave it her all against Under 18 National Champ Grace Piper but went down 6-4 6-4 leaving us at 3-3 after singles.

Down to the doubles...

Unbeaten last year Jayanne Palma and Jess Dawson teamed up to win at the No.2 doubles spot closely followed by Isabelle Hearnshaw and Rebecca Hill winning at No.3 meaning we had won the tie. Megan Hopton and Eleanor Dean lost at the No.1 doubles spot meaning Yorkshire took the win 5-4. Close one.

Day 2 Win vs Sussex: 9-0

Yorkshire ladies put in some



■ L to R: Jayanne Palma, Katie Morton, Emily Morton, Jo Craven (Captain), Eleanor Dean, Jess Dawson, Rebecca Hill, Izzy Hearnshaw, Megan Hopton

solid singles performances taking all the singles rubbers putting us at 6-0. Jess Dawson had a tricky match at No.3 singles against Saffron Dowse but managed to keep on top in the second set winning 6-3 7-5. Emily Morton had a battle for the No.1 singles rubber beating Alicia Dudeney 3-6 7-5 6-3 in a 2.5-hour long match.

Yorkshire were feeling confident after the singles and cleaned up the doubles wins for a 9-0 win and an early finish followed by a trip to the Metro Centre!

Day 3 Loss vs Northumberland: 4-5

Day three and we faced local side Northumberland who had also won their previous two matches meaning the winner of the tie was to gain promotion to Division 1. Yorkshire got off to a fantastic start with Rebecca Hill, Katie Morton and Jess Dawson winning at 4, 5 and 6 singles,

losing only seven games between them. Needing only two rubbers for the win, Division 1 was in sight...

Megan Hopton lost at the no.3 spot to Grace Dixon. Eleanor Dean had a long battle with Alexandra Walker but went down 6-3 in the third. Katie Morton also had a tough one against Amy Hoburn also losing 6-3 in the third taking the score to 3-3 after singles.

Down to the doubles for two hours of nail biting tennis, the doubles matches all went on at the same time for a doubles showdown.

Jess Dawson and Jayanne Palma finished first beating Stephanie Booth and Deborah Armstrong 10-4 in a third set tie break at the No.2 doubles spot.

Rebecca Hill and Isabelle Hearnshaw put up a great fight coming back to win the second set after losing the first set

County Cup 2020

6-0 to Grace Dixon and Lauren Jones but couldn't convert the ten point tie breaking going down 10-3.

It was all down to the last rubber and Megan Hopton and Eleanor Dean were 1 set all with Amy Hoburn and Alexandra Walker meaning another ten point tie break! It was a great match but Northumberland played some gritty tennis and took more risks than us on crucial points which paid off. All in all, it was a disappointing weekend for the ladies having worked so hard but I know we will come back stronger next year and we will make it into Division 1 again!

18&U Girls

Competition & Venue:
18&U Girls County Cup, Bath
28/29 February, 1 March 2020

Captain: Calvin Betton
Vice captain: Jo Craven

Team Members: Jess Dawson, Savannah Dada-Mascoll, Orla Cooper, Jayanne Palma, Gabby Lindley, Phoebe Suthers, Caitlin Ward

Day 1 Win vs Essex: 6-3
To start off what we knew would be a tough campaign, Phoebe lost a close match at

6, but Gabby put in a typically resilient performance to win a battle, 7-5, 3-6, 7-6, to make it 1-1 after the first two singles matches. Jayanne and Orla then won two comfortable matches to put us 3-1 ahead in the tie. Savannah won an epic battle at 2, winning in a final set tie-break, before Jess lost at 1, leaving us 4-2 after the singles. Gabby and Phoebe won an epic at third doubles pair, 11-9 in the match tiebreak, and Orla and Savannah won at second pair to secure the tie, 6-3.

Day 2 Win vs Hampshire & Isle of Wight: 7-2

Gabby and Phoebe got us off to a great start with two comfortable wins, and then



■ L to R: Phoebe Suthers, Jayanne Palma, Gabby Lindley, Savannah Dada-Mascoll, Jess Dawson, Orla Cooper, Caitlin Ward

County Cup 2020

Jayanne won an epic, saving match points to win in a final set tiebreak. Orla won in three sets to put us 4-0 up in the tie. Savannah lost at 2 against an extraordinarily strong player, but Jess sealed the tie with a strong performance at 1, 5-1 after the singles. Jess & Jayanne and Savannah & Phoebe won their doubles comfortably, and Gabby & Orla lost in a match tiebreak. A strong 7-2 win for the team. This left us knowing that a win the following day vs Middlesex would give us the title.

Day 3 Loss vs Middlesex: 3-6

We knew this would be a tough task as Middlesex brought in two National Academy players for the final day, something we were unable to do. Phoebe got us off to a strong start though, winning in straight sets. Gabby lost a long battle going down in the tiebreak in the third. 1-1 after the first two rubbers. We struggled in the next three singles matches against strong opponents. Jess gave us hope with a strong win at No.1 though. This left us 2-4 down after the singles. Orla and Gabby kept up the battle with a great doubles win, to make it 3-4. Unfortunately, that was the last win we got on the day, eventually losing the tie 3-6.

It was a tough weekend to take as we finished level on points with Middlesex, with them winning the title on count back by one rubber. The bare bones team we had performed fantastically though, and we will have another crack at the title next year!

18&U Boys

Competition & Venue:
18&U Boys County Cup, Bath
28/29 February, 1 March 2020

Captain: Elliot Chang
Vice captain: Peter Ashley

Team: Johannus Monday, Tom Smart, Adam Hillerby, Joseph Fletcher, Alex Tikhonov, JB Pickard, Thomas Linley, Jack Batchelor

The 18&U Boys team went into the 2020 County Cup on the back of winning the event the previous year but with a string of new faces in the line-up, a number of debutants would have to step up if we were to retain our status as national champions. Johannus Monday, Tom Smart, Adam Hillerby & Joseph Fletcher had all been part of the previous year's success. Whilst Alex Tikhonov, JB Pickard, Thomas Linley and Jack Batchelor came into the team for the first time. Elliot Chang took up the reigns as captain with Peter Ashley returning in the role of vice-captain.

Day 1 Win vs Essex: 7-2

The first day of the round robin three-day event saw us face Essex on the Friday. The boys got off to a fantastic start with Jack and Alex winning at singles Nos 6&5 respectively, both making their debuts in the team and producing some really impressive displays.

The momentum we had built up continued throughout the singles line up as the boys

claimed all six singles rubbers, something extremely rare at county cup in any age group. We had fantastic support from all team members and the players really backed each other in the key moments.

It was testament to the excellent focus and maturity to stay on it for the whole day with the older players setting a good example and leading from the front. I was most impressed that there was no sign of any let up as the match was secured with everyone understanding the importance of each rubber in the overall standings.

Day 2 Win vs Lancashire: 7-2

Saturday's action pitted us against Lancashire, both teams and captains knew their respective counterparts well so it would be a test of nerve as to who could produce their best tennis on the day. Even under that extra bit of pressure the boys again showed great character and stayed strong throughout the matches.

Our line up remained the same as the previous day and after we lost at 6 but claimed the victory at 5 the match was finely poised after the first two hours play. Adam Hillerby and JB Pickard then produced exemplary performances at 4&3 respectively winning in straight sets and putting us 3-1 up before the match was again sealed after singles play. Tom Smart won at singles No.2 and Johannus Monday secured the win at No.1, both left handers using their serve and explosive game styles to come out on top.

County Cup 2020



■ L to R: Elliot Chang (captain), JB Pickard, Joseph Fletcher, Thomas Linley, Johannus Monday, Jack Batchelor, Adam Hillerby, Alex Tikhonov, Tom Smart

A better doubles display than the day before was pleasing to see and certainly gave selection issues for the captains going into the final day.

Day 3 Win vs Sussex: 6-3

The final day vs Sussex would prove our toughest test. Both in terms of the level of opponent but also as the finish line got closer, we would have to keep our composure in order to get the job done. Beating all three teams over the weekend isn't easy and we

talked going into the match about our personal standards and not being complacent. An unchanged line up saw Alex and Jack both win long 3 set matches to set us up well before Adam and JB produced some great tennis to keep the momentum with us. After Tom Smart narrowly lost at singles No.2 after having match points to keep Sussex's hopes alive the responsibility of sealing the win fell to Johannus Monday. He would face his toughest and highest ranked opponent of the weekend and after an

incredibly high level and tense encounter he managed to get the win 7-6,7-6.

It was a pleasure to captain the boys all weekend and retain the national title for the first time. Going into the weekend on paper at least it was set to be nip and tuck but the boys truly were the best 'team' throughout the weekend. Their preparation, mindset and ultimately nerve were far superior to their opponents which saw us dominate the singles match ups each day.



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